



## 2018 Elections Special: Zimbabwe Braces For A New Dawn



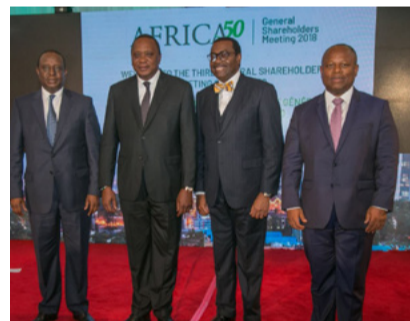
▶ **Mnangagwa-The experienced and steady Hand**

▶ **Chamisa and the generational change argument**

▶ **Mujuru-Is Zimbabwe ripe for female President?**

▶ **Judge Priscilla Chigumba - Only ZEC Has Mandate To Announce Election Results Per Electoral Act**

▶ **The Looming Shadow of former President Robert Mugabe**



**Africa50 Meeting: Kenyatta and Adesina call for accelerated private sector investment in infrastructure**

PAGE 30



**Strong Coalition of Justice Seekers Needed for Rome Statute To Fulfill Its Mission- New ICC Bar President Charles Taku**

PAGE 21



**Namibia to convene second land summit in October**

PAGE 24



**SAA VOTED BEST AIRLINE FOR STAFF SERVICE IN AFRICA AND RETAINS 4-STAR RATING**

*I thank you for making it all possible*



**SOUTH AFRICAN AIRWAYS**  
A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER

Travel has become easier with the launch of e-visa for tourists. Visit Ethiopia...

A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER Ethiopian





*Africa is our business*



Since its founding in 2005, Global Specialty has operated in 36 countries in Africa, advising more than 12 private sector companies and representing more than 6 African governments to enable the unlocking of growth opportunities in Africa.

### African Market Entry

- Advisory Service in East Africa Commercial Port Project Feasibility Study
- Pan-African Asset- Backed Securities Initiative Development
- Infrastructure Development Project
- Nigeria Market Access Strategy for Sumitomo Chemical, Ltd
- Specialty Commodity Imports to the United States
- Africa Market Strategy for AECOM
- Port Renovation in Africa

### Country and Government Representation

We provide technical assistance to governments to help facilitate mechanisms and dynamics for unlocking value creation and opportunities. Assist in developing strategies and growth synergies with U.S., European and Asian governments and private sector

We plan and coordinate African government visits to the United States by the President, Key members of his cabinet and other senior Government officials, in collaboration with their respective Embassies in Washington, DC and country Permanent Missions to the UN in New York.

We monitor US legislative and trade policies that directly affect the country and provide analysis and guidance to country officials on the impact of those policies; Promote greater congressional knowledge and understanding of the country Government's policies, accomplishments and the achievements of the government.

We design Media and Public relation outreach campaign to reshape and enhance the government and the country public image in the US.

Global Specialty, LLC  
2020 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW # 220  
Washington, DC 20006

<http://www.globalspecialtyllc.com>

Global Specialty is a registered Limited Liability Company in the District of Columbia, United States

© 2018. All Rights Reserved

# CONTENTS

In Zimbabwe A New Dawn Beckons	2
Only ZEC Has Mandate To Announce Election Results Per Electoral Act –High Court Judge Priscilla Chigumba	3
Zimbabwe Electoral Body Spells out Mandate ahead of the crucial Harmonised Elections	4
The Resurgence of Zanu PF Factional Fights - A Threat to the Zimbabwe Transition	6
Civil Society Critical in fostering Dialogue and Interrogating Electoral Violence in Zimbabwe's New Dispensation	8
Quantity "Yes" Quality "No"- Zimbabwe Preparations for the 2018 Harmonised Elections	9
Mnangagwa's Vision for Zimbabwe post-2018 Harmonised Elections	11
Mujuru's Vision for Zimbabwe post-2018 Harmonised Elections	13
Chamisa's Vision for Zimbabwe post-2018 Harmonised Elections	14
Shadows of the Dead Heroes and Heroines, Tradition, Culture And Religion Muddle Zimbabwe's Political Landscape and Economy	15
New Survey On Zimbabwe's July 30 Elections Focuses Only On Two Political Parties Only	17
Kofi Annan Graces Zimbabwe With The Pan-African Spirit Of Democracy For Economic Growth And Development.	18
Zimbabwe after Mugabe. An Imbrolio or Blessing?	19
Strong Coalition of Justice Seekers Needed for Rome Statute To Fulfill Its Mission-ICC Bar President Charles Taku	21
Namibia to convene second land summit in October	24
What African Governments Should Do To Boost Agriculture	26
How Africa can embrace an AI-enabled future	27
Akwa Ibom - Sustainable Development in Nigeria's Prime Investment Destination	28
Africa50 Meeting: Kenyatta and Adesina call for accelerated private sector investment in infrastructure	30
The Cameroons: Who is afraid of dialogue?	31
The 2018 Africa Trade & Investment Global Summit (ATIGS)	34
ATIGS 2018 Event Highlights	35
The Future Of Transport MANO-RAIL	37

## PAN AFRICAN VISIONS

7614 Green Willow Court, Hyattsville, MD  
20785

Tel: **2404292177**,  
email: **pav@panafricanvisions.com**,  
**editor@panafricanvisions.com**

**Managing Editor**  
Ajong Mbapndah L

**Contributors**  
Wallace Mawire  
Deng Machol  
Papisdaff Abdullah  
Ajayi Olyinka  
Prince Kuripati  
Hategeka Moses  
Paul Night  
Asong Zelifac  
Samuel Ouma

Primus Tazanu  
Ahmed Mheta  
Nevson Mpofu

**Advertising**  
Email:  
**marketing@panafricanvisions.com**

**Graphics Designer**  
Atemnkeng Jerry M, (Young Jerry)  
EC designs, Abudhabi - UAE  
+971 525 925 303  
atemjerry@outlok.com

# In Zimbabwe A New Dawn Beckons

By Ajong Mbapndah L



Mbapndah L, Managing Editor

For the first time since independence, a familiar face will be missing from presidential elections in Zimbabwe: Robert Mugabe. In his 90s, President Robert Mugabe was forced to resign on November 21 2017. A combination of the military, backed by massive civilian protests, and threats from parliament to impeach him, culminated in the resignation of Mugabe who had dominated politics in Zimbabwe for close to four decades.

While he may be absent, the larger than life image of Robert Mugabe looms large over the elections. Current President Emmerson Mnangagwa, the flagbearer of the ruling ZANU PF and one of the

favorites was one of the closest Aides to President Mugabe, and even served as Vice President before they fell out.

Joice Mujuru one of the leading candidates also served as Vice President to former President Mugabe before she was fired. She proceeded to form her own party and is today a Presidential candidate.

Coincidentally, the other major name conspicuously absent from the elections is that of Morgan Tsvangari who had come to be the epitome of opposition to Robert Mugabe. Both men were fierce rivals in at least three or four elections. The flagbearer of Tsvangiri's party the MDC is Nelson Chamisa who is mounting a formidable bid.

In the mix of these

front three candidates are over twenty other candidates, a scenario which always favors the incumbent as opposition votes are splintered. The absence of the Mugabe and Tsvangari tussles of previous elections have not robbed the 2018 cycle of its share of drama, and tensions. The fact however remains that a new chapter in the history of Zimbabwe is about to open.

The people were instrumental in pushing President Mugabe to resign, the conduct of the military earned kudos for the protection offered to protesters. Zimbabwe came out big. Now is the time for the people to vote and now is the time for the military to step up again in ensuring that the people

are protected. Will the same synergy be in display during the elections? Time will tell.

Zimbabweans do have enough choices from which to make the pick of the next person to lead the post Mugabe era. Is it the 75 year old current President Emmerson Mnangagwa, well versed with political developments in Zimbabwe, and who has served the country in diverse positions? The experience card plays to his favor and if the rapid changes that have taken place in Zimbabwe since he took over from President Mugabe are anything to go by, then Mnangagwa may have done himself the kind of favors which put him miles ahead of his challengers.

In Joice Mujuru, the country has a female candidate with a good profile but is the country ready for a female President? Sirleaf Johnson served two terms as President in Liberia. Joyce Banda served as President in Malawi for a few years. Can voters in Zimbabwe give their votes to Joice Mujuru? In her 60s, Joice Mujuru has said amongst other things that she will serve only one term if elected. Serving as Vice President under former President Robert Mugabe certainly gave her good experience and for those who want to give the gender card strong consideration, Mujuru could be an exciting option.

Should Zimbabweans not want to take experience or gender into cognizance when voting, perhaps they could go for the youth card. Here, 40 year Nelson Chamisa the MDC Allinace candidate could answer the call of those who want a generational change. When one looks at the reforms and progress that Ethiopia is making under a Prime Minister with the same age range as Chimasa, people may be curious to ask why not him?

The other candidates running do have their own attributes as well, but it will be a new dawn for Zimbabwe irrespective of who wins. Hopefully the people turn out in numbers to make their voices heard, hopefully their wishes are respected and the verdict from the polls is respected.

Happy reading!

Travel has become easier  
with the launch of e-visa  
for tourists. Visit Ethiopia...

A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER

Ethiopian



# Only ZEC Has Mandate To Announce Election Results Per Electoral Act -High Court Judge Priscilla Chigumba

By Nevson Mpofo



Zimbabwe Electoral Commission chairperson Justice Priscilla Chigumba

At the center of the upcoming elections in Zimbabwe is High Court Judge Priscilla Chigumba. As Chair of the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission, all eyes are on her to ensure that the elections are free and fair with an outcome that reflects the will of the people. In the face of controversies that threaten the smooth conduct of elections notably on announcing election results, PAV caught up with her recently in Harare.

**High Court Judge what is your reaction to political parties and the public bent towards**

**disturbing peace in the country**

**Priscilla Chigumba:**

The commission has advised stakeholders in terms of the announcement of election results. This comes at a time some violent opposition parties are promising to cause mayhem with the announcement of results.

ZEC is the only one with the mandate to announce the results in terms of section 66A of the electoral Act. MDC Alliance tried to disrupt issuing of postal ballots in Zvishabane.

Nelson Chamisa is also threatening to announce the results " This is not

according to the Laws of the country. The Electoral Code of Conduct which binds political parties, candidates and other stakeholders, prohibits declaration or announcement of the results of the election before it has been declared officially by an electoral officer.

"Any person who purports to announce results of an election as the true or official results , or purports to declare any candidate to have been duly elected before an electoral officer has announced the result of the election or declared a candidate to have

been duly elected in that election , shall be liable to a fine or imprisonment . The public should note that it is only ZEC prerogative to announce elections.

**PAV:-If ZEC is accountable why then is Chamisa threatening to do this**

**Priscilla Chigumba:**

"The fact is, these parties think they are irregularities in ZEC .All those complaints are false. What I urge the public are peaceful elections because all was done well a. We follow the constitution , codes of conduct as we work with political parties

and we respect those surrounding us like Peace observers , the public and the law in general .

**PAV: Is there any wrong political parties using digital methods**

**Priscilla Chigumba:**

"there is nothing wrong with political parties using digital campaign methods as long as this does not infringe on other people's rights . Others are doing it, as long it is done responsibly.

We also urge use of social media responsibly, without any infringement, abusing the rights of other people.

I urge the public to stay away from spreading fake news which may bring alarm and despondency to fellow citizens. Several processes are at an advanced stage as we are close to elections. Procurement of election material is already and complete to deliver.

**PAV---How many people have you accredited so far to cover the elections?**

**Priscilla Chigumba:**

-We have accredited 1 140 observers , 187 foreign observers , 34 foreign journalists , 279 local journalists and 640 local observers

# Zimbabwe Electoral Body Spells out Mandate ahead of the crucial Harmonised Elections

By Prince Kurupati



ZEC Chair person Priscilla Chigumba

**Z**imbabwe's electoral body, ZEC (Zimbabwe Electoral Commission) on the 13th of July held a briefing with local and international election observers including journalists outlining its mandate ahead of the 30th July harmonised elections. ZEC has come under increasing pressure and scrutiny over the past month in the build-up to the elections and the briefing held at the Harare International Conference Centre (HICC) was meant among other things to respond to the many allegations it has been accused of.

The Chairperson of ZEC Priscilla Chigumba addressed the observers and journalists who were gathered at the HICC. The following are the key highlights from Chigumba's presentation.

## Election Preparedness

ZEC is the only body that is recognised under the supreme law of Zimbabwe as an electoral body meaning, it is the only body which is responsible for conducting elections in Zimbabwe. ZEC prepares for, conducts, and supervises elections to the office of President and to Parliament, elections to provincial and metropolitan councils and the governing bodies of Local Authorities, elections of members of the National Council of Chiefs and referendums.

When it comes to the first role of ZEC in the country's national elections i.e. preparing for elections, ZEC Chairperson Priscilla Chigumba said that the body is fully prepared for the upcoming harmonised elections. On the financing side, Chigumba said that

her body was allocated \$95.9 million out of a bid of \$178 million budget for the 2018 Harmonised Elections. While the allocation received was not what they expected, Chigumba said that ZEC was able to revise its budget and met all the key requirements ahead of the elections. To date, ZEC has received 70 percent of the \$95.9 million allocation.

The money that ZEC received from the budget allocation has gone to cover expenses for the following: holding stakeholder engagements to inform the electorate of developments at every stage of the electoral process (29 stakeholder meetings since the commencement of the BVR exercise in September last year), trust building forums, implementation of Biometric Voter Registration meant

at improving election administration in the country in line with international best practice and recommendations made by some of the observer groups in 2013, establishing inspection centres, facilitating the use of the Unstructured Supplementary Service Data (USSD) platform \*265# to enable registrants to check their details using their mobile phones, sending out 3 256 440 bulk SMS with registration details to registrants who supplied their mobile numbers upon registration, vehicles to enhance its mobility during electoral activities, election material, recruitment of Constituency Elections Officers and procuring of sentinel paper for the printing of the Presidential and National Assembly ballot papers.

Furthermore, in line with adequately preparing for the upcoming election, ZEC managed to gazette a new voter's roll as envisaged by the electoral law on the 29th of May 2018. ZEC has also provided a copy of the electronic voters roll to candidates and stakeholders upon request.

At the time of her presentation, Chairperson Chigumba said that ZEC was still in the process of printing the ballot papers. She said that the printing of the Presidential Ballot paper is almost complete and more than 50% of the National Assembly and Local Authority ballot papers have now been printed.

Moreover, still in line with adequately preparing for the upcoming election, ZEC has been conducting vigorous Voter Education and Publicity campaigns in collaboration with civil society organisations to ensure that the electorate is well informed of the Biometric Voter Registration exercise and other electoral processes leading to polling day. ZEC has employed a number of strategies to enhance effective information dissemination and voter education on electoral processes including adverts in the electronic and print media, regular Radio and Television programmes, roadshows, bulk SMS, updating ZEC website, promotional material and Pamphlets, door to door information dissemination and Unstructured Supplementary Service

Data (USSD) code.

Support from the government was also complemented by cooperating partners such as UNDP, EISA and IFES in areas such as voter education, communication, training and data centre upgrade

### Zimbabwe Electoral System

Chairperson Chigumba took time to explain to the observers and journalists present the electoral system/s in the country. Zimbabwe has three systems the First-Past-the-Post system, the Proportional Representation System and the Single Member Majority System.

The Single Member Majority system is applied for the Presidential Election. This system stipulates that the winner must obtain an absolute majority of votes the minimum being 50% plus one vote. Only when one candidate has garnered 50 percent of the votes plus one or more will s/he is considered a winner. In the event that no candidate manages

to garner 50 percent of the votes then a runoff will be conducted between the two front-runners. In the runoff, the system changes into a First-Past-the-Post system.

### First-Past-the-Post System

The First-Past-the-Post system (Single Member Plurality System) is used for elections in the lower house of Parliament (the National Assembly) and for local authority elections. At times it is also used for the Presidential election if a runoff is required to determine a winner. Under this system, any candidate who attains the highest number of votes is declared the winner.

### Proportional Representation System

The Proportional Representation System is applied for members (60) of the upper house of Parliament i.e. the Senate and also part of the National Assembly (60 members). Under this system, candidates will be drawn from parties that

managed to satisfy all the ZEC requirements for the Proportional Representation System.

### Electoral Reforms

Chairperson Chigumba also took some time to explain all the electoral reforms undertaken by her body in respect of aligning the Electoral Amendment Act to the new Constitution. Among some of the key electoral reforms include ensuring that gender is mainstreamed into electoral processes, extending the period of residence to be considered in deciding whether a voter's name should be retained on the voters roll from 12 months to 18 months, allowing foreign donations to fund voter education activities to be directly channelled to civil society organisations as opposed to via the Commission, allowing the Commission to establish more polling stations for an area that has a large voter population, removal of duplicates to bring it in conformity with the processes brought about by the introduction

of biometric voter registration, easing the withdrawal of candidates to remove the cumbersome problem which the Commission was required to undertake on withdrawal of candidacy, allowing visually impaired voters to be assisted to vote by a person of their choice without the Presiding Officer necessarily being present, amending the ballot so that the number of ballot papers printed for any election does not exceed more than 10% of the number of registered voters eligible to vote in the election, and expand the definition of intimidation to include that persuading or attempting to persuade another person that they will be able to determine or discover how they have voted is an act of intimidation.

The Electoral Dispute Resolution (EDR) will handle and deal with political violence, intimidation and other electoral disputes.



**AT LUMEN CHRISTI INC.,**

**WE MAKE YOUR HEALTH AND WELL BEING OUR PRIORITY.**

**Phone : +1 (617) 479 0206**

**Email: lumen.christi.hci@gmail.com**

**1359 Hancock Street, Ste 6,  
Quincy MA 02169**

### Key Statistics

<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF REGISTERED VOTERS</b>	<b>5,695,706</b>
<b>INSPECTION CENTRES</b>	<b>10 807</b>
<b>REGISTRATION CENTRES</b>	<b>2 019</b>
<b>REGISTRANTS ON THE EXCLUSION LIST</b>	<b>92,745</b>
<b>ACCREDITED LOCAL OBSERVERS</b>	<b>523</b>
<b>ACCREDITED LOCAL JOURNALISTS</b>	<b>247</b>
<b>ACCREDITED FOREIGN OBSERVERS</b>	<b>168</b>
<b>ACCREDITED FOREIGN JOURNALISTS</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>TOTAL PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>TOTAL NATIONAL ASSEMBLY CANDIDATES</b>	<b>1652</b>
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF INDEPENDENTS</b>	<b>247</b>
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF POLLING STATIONS</b>	<b>10,985</b>



# The Resurgence of Zanu PF Factional Fights - A Threat to the Zimbabwe Transition

By Lovemore Kadenge



Lovemore Kadenge

In a typical African setting, 'little things' degenerate into disproportionate consequences. The continent's politics at times suffers from the absence of strong institutions that can fill the gap of individuals. Under the one-man rule of Robert Gabriel Mugabe, all national institutions were personalized around the incumbent and democratic transition was a mirage. Electoral management, national defense, state security, you name it, all appeared to reflect one man. For the longest time, transition in Zimbabwe was believed to be anchored on the removal of the first post-independence black ruler, Robert Mugabe. The military coup of November 14, 2017 did that. It would appear that with Mugabe out of the way, nothing could stop the unraveling transition.

The democratic transition that Zimbabwe is undergoing is anchored on three pillars: restoration of national confidence,

international reengagement and institutional reform with the return of rule of law. However, an ominous cloud hangs over Zimbabwe since an assassination attempt was made on the incumbent Zimbabwe president, Emmerson Dambudzo Mnangagwa on June 23, 2018 at White City Stadium in Bulawayo. The bombing incident claimed lives of two local security agents and 47 people were injured. Not long ago, Rwanda had erupted under similar circumstances with ghastly consequences. A sitting president was killed in a suspicious plane crash and the incident fueled the existing ethnic tensions between the Hutu and Tutsi as one side accused the other of complicity in the incident. This flared up into genocide that killed hundreds of thousands of Tutsis at the hands of militant bands of Hutus. This happened because the Rwandese army and security services abandoned their identity as constitutional organs.

Like it would happen in Zimbabwe's 2008 harmonised elections, the security institutions acted as partisan institutions, getting themselves in ethnic power retention struggles. The ethnic conflation of state institutions is what is meant when we talk of weak national institutions. Now the fear is that the recent Bulawayo bombing incident could be used by military elements to resist power transfer if Mnangagwa loses power on the 30th of July 2018. The suspects of the bombing incident are the 'G40' element and the MDC Alliance presidential candidate Nelson Chamisa who is allegedly linked to the former president Robert Mugabe. The factionalism along tribal lines in ZANU PF between the G40 (Zezuru) and Lacoste (Karanga) is the perfect accomplice for power retention to flare up again as it did in 2008.

Democratic transition has suffered many threats in Zimbabwe. First, it was at the

end of the cold war era when the Breton Wood institutions foisted structural reform on third world 'client' states. It left the country exposed politically, socially and economically. In Zimbabwe for example, one of the main reasons why the Economic Structural Adjustment Program (ESAP) failed was simply no political will largely because it threatened power retention. Feeling exposed from the changing world order, the incumbent nationalist order began an accelerated process of resistance to change and militarization became a preferred option.

ESAP worked in Mauritius and placed the country on the road to transformation. In Ghana, the Bretton Woods system provided the much-needed stimulus to economic take off and social political transformation. In Zimbabwe, while resisting ESAP because of its regime change agenda, the administration understood the economy had stalled since independence and could not go on. Consideration was made to take on different options that had little impact on power retention like the Malaysian and Chinese models. That too was too late in coming as the world had essentially changed in the wake of the termination of the cold war.

In 2018, there are all the same signals in the current post Robert Mugabe administration of Emmerson Mnangagwa. The power retention urge is still predominant over any other considerations. For example, while the economy is tinkering, ZANU PF election expenditure is estimated at US\$300 million, about 8% of the national budget.

The second threat was the stifling of the arrival of the alternative post liberation formation in the late 1990s. Though substantial progress was registered in breaking the nationalist hegemony and its framework, the transition in

Zimbabwe ended prematurely with a failed transfer of power in 2008. The election management system of the time was just as personalized and it failed to uphold and respect the decision of the people at the ballot. Institutions were captured as the militarization of the state took a new pace. When the opposition leader Morgan Tsvangirai had taken a clear lead in the first round of elections in 2008, it was the military together with Emmerson Mnangagwa its minister that championed the resistance to transition. A group of 200 senior military officers took it upon themselves to champion scotched earth actions against civilians to restrain them from voting for the opposition MDC T in the runoff elections of June the same year. Effectively, the failure of the election institution in the runoff elections was forestalled by a military coup.

For over six years, from April 2008 to 2014, the whole country would be on practical lockdown with the constitution virtually suspended. Apart from the current incumbent president, the players in that act included among others; the current first vice president, Constantine Chiwenga, foreign affairs minister, Maj Gen Sibusiso Moyo, Maj Gen Englebert Rujeko who is now the ruling party national commissariat and the still serving Quarter Master General Douglas Nyikayaramba. Their mantra was simple; political

power in Zimbabwe is a birth right of former combatants of the war of liberation.

Now, the same coup leader is running on a reform agenda that purports to include a democratization agenda. With an election pending and the mood apparently anti-establishment, what has changed, if anything, is to assuage the fears that the transition is as usual headed nowhere. Adding to the anxiety around the attempt on Emmerson Mnangagwa was the fact that the bombing incident takes place in the wake of a decade of persistent acrimonious relations within the ruling elite. Following the November 2017 coup, a purge of supporters of the previous incumbent, the 'G40' faction followed ostensibly to cleanse ZANU PF. The understanding was that the military backed Mnangagwa while the other security elements were perceived to support the outgoing Mugabe. Naturally, the ensuing purge would have done justice by not only removing suspicious elements from surrounding the incoming administration but also curing the fractious party and uniting the leadership especially at election time. The grenade lobbed at Emmerson Mnangagwa changed everything. Though welcomed by the international community and long-suffering Zimbabweans, the November 2017 coup on Robert Mugabe had merely solved a

part of the internal ruling party contention.

By the time of the November coup, the ruling party was imploding with vested interests showing signs of irreconcilability. ZANU PF internecine wrangling bore all the archetypical signs of African nationalist politics where the narrative is anti imperialist while the appropriation took an ethnic dimension. However, in the Zimbabwe case, the contestation has distinct crony characteristics that is associated with underworld networks. There has been the association of the Zimbabwe military brass with the Asian underworld capital through the so called mega deals that have included diamond mining, government procurement and reconstruction. Of the post Mugabe cabinet, none is clean in this regard.

In the past seven months since the last coup, the economy has failed to show signs of recovery, prices have continued on an upward trajectory and services have collapsed. It follows that an election naturally threatens them and their respective underworld networks. The fears have shifted from the outgoing to the instability of the present leadership. Under the circumstances, misgivings are on the brinkmanship that characterized the modus operandi of the revolutionary party. Once again the transition is under a cloud of unpredictability. Would

a crony group with a tainted background let power slip through their fingers?

For the hope of transition to become a reality, opposition parties must continue with their calls for reforms. The opposition parties in Zimbabwe in particular, the Movement for Democratic Change formed by the late icon Dr. Richard Morgan Tsvangirai has done a good job to keep the ruling party on their toes. The cry for strong and sound institutions should be an ongoing process. Detrimental repressive laws like the Access to Information and the Protection of Privacy Act (AIPPA) need to be changed or repealed to allow state institutions to deliver their mandate for the benefit of the citizens. If the hold on ZANU PF is broken on 30 July 2018, it will be the first time in Southern Africa that a liberation party has been deposed. This will serve to weaken the power of individualistic and partisanship behavior in government. Moreover, African countries under the suffocating grip of liberation parties led by corrupt megalomaniacs, will be inspired to fight for transformation in politics for the betterment of their nations.

\* Lovemore Kadenge is President of the Zimbabwe Economics Society



## Infinity Health Care Services, LLC

8611 Lugano Road,  
Randallstown, MD 21133  
Phone: 443-982-3052  
Fax: 410-680-6598

Email: [infinityhealthcareservice@gmail.com](mailto:infinityhealthcareservice@gmail.com),  
[info@infinityhcs.com](mailto:info@infinityhcs.com),  
[ceo@infinityhcs.com](mailto:ceo@infinityhcs.com),

[www.infinityhcs.com](http://www.infinityhcs.com)

# Civil Society Critical in fostering Dialogue and Interrogating Electoral Violence in Zimbabwe's New Dispensation

By Wallace Mawire

Civil society in Zimbabwe's new dispensation is seeking to play a critical role to foster research, dialogue, interrogation and discourse on the genesis of electoral violence in Zimbabwe.

For a country which has a wounded past and is on a new trajectory of economic development and less politicking, general consensus points to national shared value ethos. But will the elections to be held in less than two weeks time usher in a government of national unity to usher in national shared values?

The recent launch of a working paper titled: Taming the beast in us, context, institutions, pre and post electoral peace in Zimbabwe by the Centre for Conflict Management and Transformation (CCMT) provides testimony for civil society's engagement in facilitating peace, social cohesion and national shared values for the country which has had a wounded past due to political violence and is in transition. CCMT is a non-governmental organisation which has a vision for a society where people actively participate in creating social and economic justice by managing and transforming all forms of conflicts constructively.

On July 30, 2018, Zimbabwe will be going for elections. The past elections in the country have been dominated by violence mainly blamed on the ruling party which had been under the helm of the former President Robert Mugabe.

Following the military assisted intervention which saw leadership renewal in the ruling Zanu (PF) party and the country at large, Zimbabwe has taken a new path and trajectory which seeks to cleanse the country from its violent past.

National Peace and Reconciliation Commission (NPRC), Deputy Chairperson,

Commissioner Lilian Chigwedere at the launch of the CCMT working paper said that Zimbabwe is a wounded nation due to past incidences of electoral violence and it was imperative for institutions to find ways of how to deal with the issues and find common ground and a way forward.

She said that it was pleasing that in the current dispensation, parties had agreed to sign the peace pledge facilitated by her commission. She said that this indicated a positive signal in dealing with the contentious issues of electoral violence in the country.

Father Fidelis Mukonori, who has played a key role in the recent Zimbabwe mediation process and is also chairperson of the CCMT has been instrumental in the production of the working paper. His involvement also highlights the key role faith leaders play in the country's electoral and mediation processes.

One discussant at the launch of the working paper highlighted the key role of faith leaders in Zimbabwe's mediation processes saying that faith leaders' engagement in electoral processes should be at an early stage rather than later.

The discussant said that usually it has been observed that, faith leaders are called in to heal the wounds like ambulances when cases of violence would have occurred.

Wonder Phiri, CCMT Director said at the launch of the working paper that there have been numerous reflections on where the country is today and where and who Zimbabweans are today.

"Most prominently have been two key issues of citizenship and nationhood. CCMT posits that unifying people at national and local levels and promoting cohesion are important intangible



CCMT Executive Director Wonder Phiri

aspects of national building. Whilst we are seized with establishing a new order, we have to take into account some agreement about boundaries of the political community, national priorities and collective identity," Phiri said.

He added that a sociological understanding of the modern nation state contends that it is impossible to conceive of state building as a process separate from nation-building.

"As there is effort to strengthen state institutions, an equal measure of importance has to be placed on socio-political cohesion in the process," Phiri said.

According to Phiri, the working paper has been initiated because currently in Zimbabwe, a lot of documentation exists on the tangible and physical impact of conflict in Zimbabwe. He however said that what has not been done is to understand fully the intangible

effects of conflict resulting in the decline in citizen confidence, mistrust of political and economic institutions, weak social cohesion and the destruction of norms and values, pervasive sense of fear, disempowerment and insecurity and pessimism about the future.

"We contend that state building processes that focus primarily on the tangible aspects, for example improving and restoring physical infrastructure falls short of contributing towards sustainable peace and development," Phiri said.

He added that his organisation intends to publish another three working papers whose objective is to provide to various stakeholders a repository of knowledge that contribute towards a deeper understanding of conflict and peace issues peculiar to Zimbabwe.

Phiri said that the series will focus on how to promote positive state-society and intra-society

relations, restoring or generating trust in government and public institutions and trust among citizens including fostering notions of citizenship and socio-political cohesion.

The recently launched working paper, according to the CCMT, provides an overview of Zimbabwe's political and electoral landscape highlighting the significant re-configurations that have taken place. It is reported

that previous elections in Zimbabwe have been dominated by violence, bitter contestation which are reported to have been influenced by unsettled structural political questions.

Tamuka Charles Chirimambowa, Executive Secretary of the Institute of Public Affairs (IPAZ) hosted by Gravitass and have been partners with CCMT in the formulation of the working paper said that there are unresolved

issues of political violence in Zimbabwe. He said that there was a need for one Zimbabwe with one vision. Some of the issues he highlighted at the launch include rising intra-party violence including Gender Based Violence (GBV) which he said was on the rise.

He said that too many fingers have been pointing at state violence and the state has always been viewed as the villain. He said this has resulted

in other actors and institutions' participation in perpetration of violence being forgotten.

Chirimambowa said that the working paper seeks to assess how Zimbabwean society transforms from logic of force to the force of logic, from state-centric to societal-centric values.

The organizations have recommended that in-order to understand violence in Zimbabwe, there is need to go beyond the state-centric

approach focusing on a power and interest analysis of various societal actors is instructive, operationalising the new constitution, ideological deradicalization of the state and ruling party, re-orientation and transitions in major parties such as ZANU PF and MDC-T and foreign policy re-orientation and re-engagement.

# Quantity "Yes" Quality "No"- Zimbabwe Preparations for the 2018 Harmonised Elections

By Prince Kurupati

On 30 July 2018, Zimbabweans residing in Zimbabwe and embassy officials across the globe will cast their votes to determine who will lead the country for the next five years. There are 23 candidates on the presidential ballot but according to political analysts and the majority of citizens, this is just a two horse race between the incumbent Emmerson Mnangagwa and the main opposition leader Nelson Chamisa.

When it comes to national elections, in any country, there are two main factors which determine if those elections are credible (and partly if there are free and fair). These two factors are election quantity and election quality.

Election quantity refers to the 'frequency' with which elections are held. This article focuses on the Zimbabwean election and as such will use the Zimbabwean example, its national elections for choosing the president, members of the legislature

and members of local government are slated after every five years. If Zimbabwe does hold its elections after five years (as is the case now) then it means it passes the election quantity test. Election quantity does not incorporate any other factor besides the frequency with which elections are held.

Election quality, on the other hand, encompasses a number of factors. While election quantity is important, most political analysts, election observers and the general populace focus on election quality to determine the credibility, freeness and fairness of an election.

As alluded to before, Zimbabwe passes the election quantity test but when it comes to the election quality test, there are many boxes yet to be fulfilled. This article will explore these election quality boxes that the country is yet to fill in preparation of the July 30th election and discuss in brief the measures that can be taken to rectify the



A mock exercise by the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission on the use of the biometric voter registration (Picture by NewsDay)

situation (despite the fact that it's only a couple of weeks before election day).

## Impartial Electoral Body

The Zimbabwe Electoral Commission (ZEC) headed by Priscilla Chigumba is the main electoral body in Zimbabwe charged with running the country's election from the presidential down to the local government elections.

Alleged impartiality of ZEC is the main reason why this upcoming election is being dubbed by many observers both in and outside the country and also other locals as lacking in credibility. Since the start of the year, there have been rumours circling around stating that almost a quarter of the electoral body's staff consists of the armed forces while there is also

a significant proportion of intelligent agents that are also part of ZEC. The involvement of these security forces in ZEC has caused many people to doubt its impartiality as the security forces were the main people behind the ouster of former President Robert Mugabe and they have vested interests in the government.

Doubts over the impartiality of ZEC



## #ZimElections2018

intensified over the past few weeks as first, there was a wave of bulk messages sent from the ruling party to the majority of the Zimbabwean citizens. These messages were personalised in such a way that it meant that the ruling party had received a database of phone numbers and their locations. As a result, many people were convinced that the ruling party ZANU (PF) had colluded with ZEC so as to receive voter information.

Additionally, there was also the postal voting debacle where police officers allegedly cast their votes in the presence of their superiors. As police officers are required to provide security during the Election Day, by law they can apply for postal voting so that they exercise their right to vote as enshrined in the supreme law of the land before Election Day. If approved, police officers by law are supposed to cast their votes in private. However, leaked messages from Ross Camp (a police camp) stated that junior police officers approved for postal voting did cast their votes in the presence of their superiors in violation of the Electoral Act as well as the Constitution which states that voting must be a secret. When asked for comments, ZEC officials gave different accounts of the postal voting debacle.

### Oversight over Election Materials and Voter's Roll

The second key aspect

which is compromising the quality of the upcoming elections pertains to the oversight over election materials and the voters roll. After several weeks of demonstrating for the release of the voters roll, the roll was finally released by ZEC a couple of weeks ago. However, an audit (still ongoing) done by the main opposition party and independent newspapers such as the *Newsday* revealed that there are many anomalies in the final voters roll. These anomalies among other things include the inclusion of 17 year olds to vote (something prohibited by the Constitution as the Legal Age of Majority Act states that one is eligible to vote only when s/he attains 18 years), inclusion of very old people on the voters roll for instance a 141 year old registered voter, while there is nothing wrong with a 141-year-old exercising his/her right to vote, the question many people have is, how come this oldest voter has never registered to vote before.

### Impartial Military

In November 2017, the military to the relief of many people in Zimbabwe overthrew the country's long-time leader Robert Mugabe. The development was applauded by most Zimbabweans as they viewed Robert Mugabe as a dictator who had brought the country to its knees. Whether Mugabe was a villain or a saint, one thing that is certain is that the military's influence

in the ouster of Mugabe set a (bad) precedent. The question now is, will the military accept any election outcome besides a victory for Mnangagwa, the man who with the aid of the military replaced Mugabe. This question can only be answered after the election but past events do not inspire confidence certainly to members of the opposition.

### Diaspora Vote

The deteriorating political and economic situation in Zimbabwe since the turn of the millennium turned many Zimbabweans into economic migrants in neighbouring countries such as South Africa and Botswana and also abroad such as in the US, UK, Canada and Australia. Rough estimates say that millions of Zimbabweans are living outside the country. With such a large proportion of Zimbabweans living abroad, it was only reasonable if they were given the chance to cast their votes wherever they are via postal voting as is the case with embassy officials scattered across the world. ZEC and the government however denied them their right to vote citing lack of resources and many political analysts say by denying these millions in the diaspora the right to vote, the current government and ZEC subsequently affected the

credibility of this election.

### Media Reform

By law, national broadcasters such as the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation are required to afford all political parties equal coverage. However, the opposition particularly MDC Alliance has cried foul saying that they are not receiving equal coverage in comparison to ZANU (PF) and that whenever they are covered by the national broadcaster, they are covered in a negative manner. With a polarised media environment like this, the credibility of this election will remain compromised.

### Impartial Traditional Leaders

Statistics say that a larger proportion of the country's population resides in the rural areas where traditional leaders have much influence. Over the years during Mugabe's reign, traditional leaders were used as political instruments by ZANU (PF) as they campaigned for the party and intimidated opposition members. There are allegations that this is still the case and many cite the recent dishing out of 226 cars to traditional leaders as a vote-buying gimmick by the incumbent Emmerson Mnangagwa. With these allegations in place, the credibility of the upcoming elections will remain a thorny issue.

### Food Aid still being used as a political tool

During the Mugabe days, ZANU (PF) was accused of using food aid as a political tool. While this practice is no longer as rampant as before, it's still used by some candidates in the ruling party. The First Lady, Auxillia Mnangagwa has also been accused of using food aid as a political tool on a number of occasions.

### Areas of Agreement

While election quality has largely been a contentious issue between ZEC/ZANU (PF) and opposition parties mainly the MDC Alliance, there are some areas where it seems that these parties are agreeing on to a larger extent. For elections to be certified credible, free and fair, the traditional rule is that international/foreign observers have to be present on the ground and they need to also weigh in with their own assessment (positive if the election is credible, free and fair). With regards to this, all parties seem to be satisfied as several countries and regional bodies including the European Union has for the first time since 2002 been allowed to observe the country's elections.

In addition, all parties have been calling for a violent free election and to this day, peace is prevailing around the country.



# Mnangagwa's Vision for Zimbabwe post-2018 Harmonised Elections

By Prince Kurupati



President Emmerson Mnangagwa greets supporters of his ruling ZANU PF party gather for an election rally in Chinhoyi, Zimbabwe, July 17, 2018.

As Zimbabwe prepares for its harmonised elections to be held on July 30th (combined local government, legislature and presidential elections), candidates are working day and night to get their campaign message across. In the presidential race, two candidates, incumbent Emmerson Mnangagwa and main opposition party leader Nelson Chamisa who are considered to be the main candidates out of the 23 presidential hopefuls have been the most vocal holding numerous rallies per week in the build-up to the 30th July showdown.

For the first time in post-independent Zimbabwe, politics of personality is no longer the chief determinant of political

allegiance but rather politics of substance. Elections of the past especially since the turn of the millennium were characterised by politics of personality as there was a clear line between supporters of former President Robert Mugabe and supporters of the late former Prime Minister and iconic main opposition party leader Morgan Tsvangirai. The military oust of Robert Mugabe and the untimely death of Morgan Tsvangirai resulted in the death of politics of personality.

With substance becoming the chief determinant of political allegiance hence votes during the election period, candidates are working hard to sell their substance (political message)

with the masses. The incumbent Emmerson Mnangagwa has focused his campaign on economic development highlighted by his 'Zimbabwe is Open for Business' mantra.

Vision 2030: Making Zimbabwe a Middle Income Country by 2030

Inspired by what he calls pragmatic politics, Emmerson Mnangagwa says he plans to make Zimbabwe a middle-income country by 2030.

According to the World Bank, a middle-income economy is one with a gross national income ranging between US\$1 005 and US\$12 235 per capita. In working to achieve that status in 12 years' time, Mnangagwa has crafted a Vision 2030 blueprint which among other things include the following.

The first and perhaps most important strategy that will lead to economic growth and revival as postulated by Mnangagwa pertains to Foreign Direct Investments (FDIs). Mnangagwa says that he wants to take Zimbabwe out of economic isolation. Economic isolation has hurt the Zimbabwean economy something which forced the country to dump the national currency and adopt a multicurrency system.

Mnangagwa says that the process of taking Zimbabwe out of economic isolation has already begun and the country is on a path of success. Backing up his claims, Mnangagwa says he has already secured over multi-billion dollars investment commitments in the time

that he has been in office. Most of the support has come from the East with China and the United Arab Emirates showing strong interests in working with him. He also stressed that many of the investors willing to invest in various sectors of the economy are waiting till after the July 30th elections due to uncertainty which comes with the election period.

Resuscitating failed projects is another of Mnangagwa's priorities. Noting the state of the country's infrastructure, Mnangagwa says that the country is backwards in comparison with other countries and he wants to correct that in the coming 12 years as part of his Vision 2030 plan. Earmarked projects include the Marovanyati Dam Project



Emmerson Mnangagwa

and the Batoka Power Project which is expected to ease the country's power problems when completed.

Reopening and resuscitating Zimbabwe's industries that were forced to close during the hyperinflationary years is also on top of the priority list. Industries such as Zimasco in KweKwe, Zisco Steel in Redcliff, and Shabanie Mine in Zvishavane and ZimAlloys in Gweru during their peak employed thousands. By reopening these industries, the country will significantly reduce the ballooning unemployment rate that's bedevilling the country while at the same time help in reviving the economic fortunes of Zimbabwe.

Beneficiation is another area that Mnangagwa says he is going to address if the

country is to get real value for its natural resources. Zimbabwe is a country that is well endowed natural resources including the world's most precious mineral platinum but is losing much revenue as its exporting minerals that have not been processed. Earlier on during his first days as the president of Zimbabwe, Mnangagwa struck a deal with neighbouring Botswana which sees the country's diamonds being cut and polished in Botswana before they are taken to the world market.

#### Social front

As part of Vision 2030, Mnangagwa says that he wants primary healthcare for all. The country's hospitals and clinics are not fully equipped and often times patients fail to get basic medicine.

However, Mnangagwa says by 2030 all hospitals will be fully furnished and equipped with the best technologies and medicine. On the health front, Mnangagwa has already taken some positive steps as all elderly people, children under five and pregnant women receive free healthcare at all public hospitals. In addition, blood is now free of charge at all public hospitals for all.

Mnangagwa also wants to afford every

child the opportunity to go to school as such he says by 2030 every child will be in school and no child will have to travel 5 kilometres or more just to reach the nearest school. Mnangagwa's vice both in government and party, Constantino Chiwenga speaking at a rally said that the government wants to revive and increase the Basic Education Assistance Module (BEAM) funding to help orphans and other vulnerable children get a basic education.

#### Political front

Mnangagwa says he is focusing more on the

#### Verdict

Zimbabwe is currently at the height of its political season and just like any other political season, there are many promises that candidates throw around. Knowing how his former master Robert Mugabe was viewed after implementing unpopular policies and alienating himself with the electorate and also the international community, Emmerson Mnangagwa knows that he has to stick by his promises in order to maintain his image and for this reason there is a high probability that he is going to carry



President Emmerson Mnangagwa with Vice President Constantino Chiwenga

economy and less on politics. As such, his stance on the political front is not clear except for the fact that he wants Zimbabwe to embrace other nations such as the UK, US and Australia that the country has had frosty relations with in the past.

out all the promises. The only question is, will the Zimbabwean electorate afford him the time to carry out all his policies freely.



**US-AFRICA**  
Cybersecurity Group

# Mujuru's Vision for Zimbabwe post-2018 Harmonised Elections

By Prince Kurupati



Joyce Mujuru

The leader of the People's Rainbow Coalition, Joyce Mujuru in an interview in 2016 with the Standard said that "We envision a Zimbabwe with peace, unity and democracy. A Zimbabwe where everyone is prosperous and in which people's interests are put first." The vision that Mujuru had in 2016 is still the same vision that she holds today.

Joyce Mujuru a former Vice President of Zimbabwe, the first female to hold the Vice President post in independent Zimbabwe was expelled by the ruling party ZANU (PF) in 2015. A few months after her expulsion, Mujuru launched a splinter party called the Zimbabwe People First. However, the party was embroiled in leadership wrangles which saw it split a little over a year later. With her party in shambles, Mujuru moved fast to hold talks with other parties and managed to establish an alliance which is now called the People's Rainbow Party of which she is the leader.

The People's Rainbow

Party (RRP) is contesting in the Presidential election and Mujuru is running as the PRP presidential candidate. While largely overshadowed by the incumbent Emmerson Mnangagwa and main opposition party leader Nelson Chamisa, Mujuru has been holding some rallies in the background that are being well received.

The main message that Mujuru is sharing with the electorate during her rallies concerns the country's governance. Mujuru says that Zimbabwe has a governance problem that has been there since former President Robert Mugabe was the leader. Mujuru promises a raft of measures meant at correcting these governance problems starting with replacing the current political system which favours politics of patronage and ushering a new political system premised on respecting the views and opinions of the public and governing according to the wishes of the majority.

In replacing the political system, Mujuru also wants

and are being used as mouthpieces of the ruling party. Only after removing the rot in these institutions will the country transform its political standing.

With her government in charge, Mujuru says that Zimbabweans in the diaspora will be afforded the chance to cast their votes via postal voting as voting is a right for all Zimbabweans regardless of the person's location.

On the economic front, Mujuru says that her most important priority is to repeal the Indigenization Act. According to Mujuru, the Indigenization Act has necessitated the

Both displaced white farmers (willing to return to their land) and resettled black farmers (willing to continue working on the land they received during the Land Reform Program) will have to apply for land titles and the government will assess the merits or demerits of affording the land title to each applicant. She has not however specified what exactly will be considered by her government when choosing who to give land titles and who not to give land titles.

On the social front, Mujuru says the trauma emanating from pre



Joyce Mujuru

to replace the country's top political institutions including the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission which is running the elections. She also wants to repeal laws such as the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act that bar foreign journalists from operating permanently in the country and has blocked the establishment of private television stations. Mujuru says that public broadcasters in the country have been abused since time immemorial

suffering of millions of Zimbabweans and the only solution is to repeal the Act so as to attract investment and promote the broad-based socio-economic growth of the country.

Mujuru also says that the civil service will be apolitical, adding loss-making parastatals will "not enjoy state subsidies indefinitely, if at all".

On the land question, Mujuru says that her government will declare all land state land and would start from scratch to provide a title for land.

and post-independence conflicts in Zimbabwe is still being felt to this day and her government will focus undertake a national healing exercise to address this challenge. The pre and post-independence conflicts in Zimbabwe that Mujuru touched on include the Gukurahundi of the 1980s where an estimated 20,000 Ndebeles were allegedly killed by the Fifth Brigade.

# Chamisa's Vision for Zimbabwe post-2018 Harmonised Elections

By Prince Kurupati

With the harmonised elections in Zimbabwe fast approaching, Nelson Chamisa the main opposition party leader (MDC Alliance) is on a nationwide campaign spree where he is meeting and sharing with the electorate his vision for Zimbabwe if he manages to win the presidential race.

The main message from Chamisa's political message is that the country is facing huge problems in almost every sector. Economically, politically, socially and technologically Chamisa states that Zimbabwe is backwards and if the current leadership continues beyond the July 30th harmonised elections, then



Nelson Chamisa

the country will head for disaster and total collapse. In light of this, Chamisa states that the only way forward is through generational consensus i.e. removing the ruling party that has 'old' people and replacing them with the young who have the energy, zeal, know-how and passion to move the country forward.

Articulating his vision for a 'new' Zimbabwe under his leadership, Chamisa states that he will prioritise a number of key sectors of the economy, while at the same time advancing the political interests of the country and restoring the eroded social fabric of Zimbabwe.

On the economic front, Chamisa says the first step that his government will take is in ending the cash crisis that has bedevilled the country since 2007 bar the Government of National Unity (GNU) period from 2009 to 2013. Chamisa's solution to the cash crisis is multifaceted. The first step is to inject confidence in the business sector and the country at large. According to Chamisa, restoring confidence is not a difficult task as the government of the day just needs to follow good governance principles and good corporate governance principles.

The second step in easing the cash crisis is scraping the bond notes (notes currently acting as the local currency) and letting the country join the Rand Monetary Union. With South Africa being the major trading partner of Zimbabwe, Chamisa believes joining the Rand Monetary Union will be advantageous to Zimbabwe. Only when the country starts finding its feet once gain does Chamisa intend to reintroduce the Zimbabwean dollar, Zimbabwe's own currency.

Chamisa intends also to resuscitate the derelict industries. Since the turn of the millennium, a number of industries in Zimbabwe have closed shop in the process retrenching thousands of workers and affecting the economic fortunes of the country. By resuscitating these industries, Chamisa will help improve the country's economic fortunes while at the same time reducing the massive unemployment rate in the country.

All parastatals grappling with high overheads, inter-parastatal debts, mal-administration, under-capitalisation, corruption and lack of good corporate governance are to be privatised thereby saving the government money it would have

used in bailing them out.

Infrastructure development is also one of the priority areas for Chamisa. Chamisa says the country is losing a lot of revenue as a result of poor (and a lack of requisite) infrastructure. Exemplifying this, Chamisa said the country's agricultural sector would be at a significantly better stage now if the country had airports in several parts of the country where farmers could easily fly their produce to European, Asian and American markets. Chamisa says his government will resuscitate airports, railways, roads and other infrastructure.

On the social front, Chamisa says he wants to reduce the widening gap between the rich and the poor and also between urbanites and ruralites. Chamisa says reviving the economy will at the same time help in reducing the economic inequality.

Education is another sector that Chamisa's government will look at as a priority area. Chamisa says that people have lost confidence in the education sector as a result of the recently introduced curriculum and as such, his government will suspend the new curriculum and continue working with the curriculum of the past.

Any changes to be effected in the curriculum will be done at specific intervals gradually. Chamisa also said that primary education will be free for all. He also states that his government will restore the integrity of the Zimbabwe School Examinations Council (ZIMSEC) which has been bedevilled by acts of unprofessionalism. To tertiary students, Chamisa promises to restore student grants and student loans.

Health will also be a priority area largely focusing on chronic and terminal ailments such as HIV/AIDS, TB and Cancer. He says that his government through a

proposed 'ChamisaCare' health policy will avail free treatment for people suffering from terminal and chronic ailments. The elderly above 65 years of age will receive free medical care in all public hospitals. For people living with albinism, Chamisa says his government will provide them with special lotions and glasses free of charge.

On the political front, Chamisa says his government will not rule but govern. Many of the political and economic problems that the country is facing boils down to the fact that the country is being ruled instead of being governed. With his government in charge, the government will govern and not rule meaning it will derive its mandate from the people and it will consult and govern according to what the people want.

On the international front, Chamisa says this government will run by the mantra, "Zimbabwe is best for business." Through this, local start-ups and entrepreneurs will be supported by the government and all investors will be welcomed with open hands. With the country being the best for business, its policies will be consistent.

# Shadows of the Dead Heroes and Heroines, Tradition, Culture And Religion Muddle Zimbabwe's Political Landscape and Economy

By Nevson Mpfu

Recently in UK there was an International conference on promoting Tourism, Business and Unity. The other objective was to appreciate History and to give allegiance to our heroes and heroines. The most sacred issue is of the returning of skulls of Zimbabwe's war heroes and heroines.

The event was organized by the Great Zimbabwe International Festival Team. This conference was graced by Prisca Mupfumira, Minister of Tourism and Hospitality Industry. A few days ago at a breakfast meeting she confirmed that the country will hold the conference.

Zimbabwe will this year in September host a conference in Masvingo at the Great Zimbabwe Ruins. The conference is a follow up and initially the secondary event after the UK one mentioned. It is meant to promote Tourism, Business and unity. On the other hand this is when the history of the country shall be re-told, showcasing monuments and remembering and talking of the return of Zimbabwe's skulls of the dead war heroes and heroines from other countries.

End of this month, 30 July, the greatest race ever ran across the country is globetrotting across all the cardinal points. However there are shadows rather than gleams of light ahead. To avid readers who have read William Shakespeare's tragically master-piece called



*Tourism Minister Hon Prisca Mupfumira addresses Zimbabweans in London on Business opportunities*

Macbeth side-line with my epic eulogy in relation to my country Zimbabwe.

Since 2002 after the land reform program which opened syllogism of the referendum which threw out ZANU PF with the vote of no confidence, the country has never since then walked along a wide path. Still before this political incidence, several hit and run disturbing events threw bombshells of clear evidence that Zimbabwe will fall apart.

Zimbabwe is in the narrow crevices marred by superstitions of shadows of the dead heroes and heroines. It is speculated that such shadows are a penumbra to Zimbabwe's economy. To take you way back to the early 80's, the country has been in a slow pace towards economic development. Praise the Lord for we were in our pre-Independence era.

With time in the mid 80's, Zimbabwe launched the Economic Adjustment Program because the economy was seen slowly

dove-tailing to descend as employment became scarce into the 90's decade. By 1995 unemployment rate was above 40%. This at most affected the low class, lowly educated, Ordinary level school leavers and young women who fall pregnant still in school.

The early 80s decade was enveloped into a calabash of a civil war. This was between the Zimbabwean Government and ZANU PF which shielded itself with the military support of the Gukurahundi. Affected communities were Matebeleland and the Midlands provinces. A lot of civilians were massacred. Some were severely tortured and others injured in inferno.

The political wrangle between ZANU PF and ZAPU PF, the two main fighters of the Chimurenga war ceased with time in Historical agreements between the two parties. This is the 1987 Unity of Accord. I vividly remember and quote the

then Leader of the country Robert Mugabe in quotes at Rufaro stadium, Harare, Mbare high density 22 December.

"We are now one family bonded by Unity, Peace and Reconciliation. Let us make the country move ahead. Let us bury our differences. Past must be past."

Of course, Robert Mugabe cherished peace but he had that dictatorship antic style of silencing his opponents by assassinating and torturing. According to a speech passed by ZAPU President Dumiso Dabengwa in Bulawayo recently, General Josiah Magama Tongogara the legend of the Chimurenga war is a long story still to betold. General Tongogara worked tirelessly and brought the country to Independence.

Dabengwa openly pointed out that Robert Mugabe's close elements killed the legend because he had openly supported the late ZAPU Leader Joshua Nkomo to lead the

Patriotic Front.

This candidature decision riled Mugabe and some elements who were part of ZANU PF. Dabengwa quoted in a local newspaper said Josiah was killed because he was on the side of Joshua Nkomo's candidature as the leader of the Patriotic Front that would go for elections in opposition to the white regime. Mugabe was said to be more of an Administrator. Nkomo was perfectly and naturally a leader because of his heroic history.

"Those were General Tongo's views. Unfortunately he uttered them during informal discussions with other people at Lancaster House in Britain. He was direct as he said this to me; Dabengwa was quoted on June 22 2018 on a Friday in a local newspaper.

Tears of the dead heroes and heroines are wetting the soil of Chimoio in Mozambique where thousands of Zimbabwe's sons and daughters of the soil were massacred by Smith's soldiers who threw bombs from the aero planes. There are some sons and daughters who died in the forests during the struggle. They never returned back.

A war liberator who spoke on grounds of anonymity said there are several issues biting. He said that the real fighters of the war of liberation are those who died during the struggle. He also pointed out that some were devoured by crocodiles trying to cross the Zambezi

River to go to Zambia where the fighters were ganged in 1964 before.

"Those sons and daughters need to be repatriated their bones to be buried in their home country. Some years back as manifestation to this writing and also as ample confirmation a gala was held at the site by the Zimbabwean Government.

"Secondly, in the National sports stadium there was another Traditional Bira renyika which was held. After this ceremony some people close to this event in positive séance expected what never even happened.

"They were optimistic the economy was to move well. It was a shameful fiasco to tell reality. We are in tears up to now. What can be our next move is to primarily look and delve into such issues."

A close source to these gleanings pointed out that there are several issues related to culture and tradition which the country never re-visited upon taking snuggled positions in office in 1980.

"There are some issues which we need to address. The only person who can push for this only at the moment is President E m m e r s o n Munangagwa who really admires our culture.

"Robert Mugabe never wanted to hear about this, like he fumed at because he was a Roman Catholic under the Jesuits. Now such spiritual issues should

I point it out are disturbing dialogues to economic development in this country .

"We need to solve them before we are eaten up by these spirits. Why I say its

Mnangagwa to solve this, he worshipped Tongogara by naming KG -6 Army Barracks by then to Josiah Tongogara .Mugabe never mentioned anything about Tongogara , let alone he kept snubbing any of such events in commemoration of the hero and no-one would dare talk about them," pointed out the Ex-Liberator .

I also vividly remember in 2011 invited to a Bira in the Mazoe area in Masonaland Province 25 kilometers outside Harare. At the event there was the brew of Mbuya Nehanda's traditional and cultural African Umuthomboti , beer to return the spirit back home and worship tradition and culture . This was performed by Nehanda Project an organization which had the vision to restore order and foster economic growth and development.

One of the organizers of the event a member of the Shava vekwa Chitauro said the country was alleged to face challenges

that the whole country is supposed to turn to ancestors and worship them.

"You talk of Zimbabwe's Independence but remember we are still colonized by the Whites. We are independent politically but not socially and spiritually. In-order for the economy to move forward, let us turn to our ancestors . Thus why we are here today, but this is just a beginning. he said

Early last month of June, Thomas Mapfumo now based in USA vociferated similar sentiments in passing at a press conference held in Harare.

"Africa must go back to its culture and tradition in order to make it see the green light. But ladies and gentlemen I urge our country to look at issues of culture and tradition so that we can ameliorate on some issues affecting us.

Thomas Mapfumo coined a number of songs which séance Zimbabwe's problems. The country has

Multitudes of Zimbabweans now have the linear pattern of views that the country is spiritually affected because of what remains unsolved. Prophets have said it time and again that there are issues which God needs to look at and remember us. Traditional Healers are talking of Culture, customs and tradition of the African people that needs to be addressed.

Now there is the Spiritual and Religious fight. No one knows who is actually correct but many are putting hopes on Mnangagwa the Joshua of Zimbabwe to lead people to the land of Canaan.

"Our hopes are pinned on Gods not politicians, says prophet Masembura who leads a congregation of God' Mission. But what I can say now is , the one in power is winning elections but he will not solve the problems . God has his son to come and solve these problems. The country will then move well," he explained.

the link of the economy and culture be it any, but as a country let us remember where we came from. Some People like Prophets are killing the temple of the Lord and our fore-fathers. This country is in Africa. We had our own culture and tradition. Where is it. We fall apart because of white domination and colonialism .Now the whole of Africa needs to be liberated", said Chisanyu .

This struggle for NEW INDEPENDENCE is a long protracted battle that will leave us in everlasting pain if not solved .It is said the War of the Liberation struggle was consulted for in-order to proceed on . There are traditional garbs and some ritual instruments which are in sacred areas which need to be collected and worshipped. Remains of the fore-fathers who were leaders of this country are in tears over this country.

In 1897 when Ambuya Nehanda was captured and to hang, she went to the podium dancing and singing. She said that her bones would rise up , ' ' m a p f u p a angu achapfuka" and liberate the country on April 18, 1980. This happened. The GREAT Z I M B A B W E RUINS STAND ERECT AS THE COUNTRY'S S H R I N E S W H E R E Z I M B A B W E ' S VESTIGES AND HISTORY IS. ACCORDING TO CHIEFS S O U R C E S , MANY RITUAL CEREMONIES

WILL BE HELD AT THE GREAT ZIMBABWE RUINS AND IN BULAWAYO AT MATOPO HILLS.



Great Zimbabwe general view of ruins

socially, politically and economically because Mbuya Nehanda wanted to be appeased. Sekuru Chitauro MuHera WeShava elucidated

over the past one and half decade been bedeviled its economy by corruption, ferments and politics leading to economic down fall.

Traditional Healer Friday Chisanyu says the spirits must be consulted to solve this deteriorating impasse at hand.

"I do not have facts on

# New Survey On Zimbabwe's July 30 Elections Focuses Only On Two Political Parties Only

By Nevson Mpofo

Zimbabwe is currently awash with mixed feelings of the coming elections on 30 July that may trigger new wave of euphoria and ululations. Besides, according to the survey by Afro-Barometer many Zimbabweans are in fear of ballot secrecy, post-election violence and delay in results announcement. This, many people fear may result in violence and political in-stability worsening economic hardships in the country.

Afro-Barometer and Mass Public Opinion Institute, assay that there is national grip of anticipation of the good to lift out the people out of poverty and the bad as fear at waste to result in the prevail of past kind of socio, political and economic life. The center of all this grip lies on is on ZANU PF and MDC Alliance political parties which are the cynosure in the playing field.

Stephen Ndoma the Principal Researcher at the Mass Public Opinion Institute said there are only two[2] political parties which dominates the survey. Voters registered are almost 5, 6 million. Among them, the voters in number are on the side of ZANU PF and MDC Alliance.

"The country is divided into two dimensions of those under ZANU PF and MDC Alliance. We only have Two political parties fighting in the battle circle as revealed by the survey.



Opinion Poll- President Mnangagwa and MDC flagbearer Chamisa are the two frontline candidates

"The Presidential race tightened between early May and early July as incumbent Emmerson Mnangagwa's lead over challenger Nelson Chamisa dropped from 11 to 3 percentage points among registered likely voters, the new survey shows.

"The survey in ten provinces suggest that Chamisa Alliance has benefited from a small increase in party identification and perceptions of Chamisa as the more capable candidate to address voters top priority job creation",

In a symposium today in Harare, the survey confirmed high levels of self-reported voter registration [88%, up from 85% in early May] and of likely voters [88% of eligible voters said they will "definitely" or "probably" vote, unchanged from

early May.

While proportion of Zimbabweans who said they feel close to a political party grew slightly between May and July, from 65% to 68%. ZANU PF'S advantage in terms of party identification declined by half, to 5% points.. 34% of respondents said they feel close to the ruling party, while 29% identified with the MDC-T party and Alliance.

The long statistical survey says further Chamisa outranked Mnangagwa, 42% to 32% in popular perceptions of which candidate would "do a better job in creating jobs for the people" -by far Zimbabweans' most important campaign issue.

As for who was ahead in the Presidential race, Mnangagwa's, 11-percentage point lead in

early May[42% versus 31% for Chamisa] dropped to just 3points as of early July..40% of registered likely voters said they would vote for the incumbent versus 37% for the challenger.

Commenting on the findings, Richman Kokera said although the findings descends on Mnangagwa as the winner, there are feelings and opinion of the people registered to vote. This, he said may change the force of the direction of the summation that he is the winner. He also pointed out an important point that there are the voting intentions of the 20% of registered voters who remained unknown.

"Feelings, gathered opinion and perceptions change with time as we move towards the election. The suspected winner may not be the one.

"Remember that we are in economic hardships, people want to see change, but its not that a winning party will automatically solve economic hardships, put food on the table and create jobs.

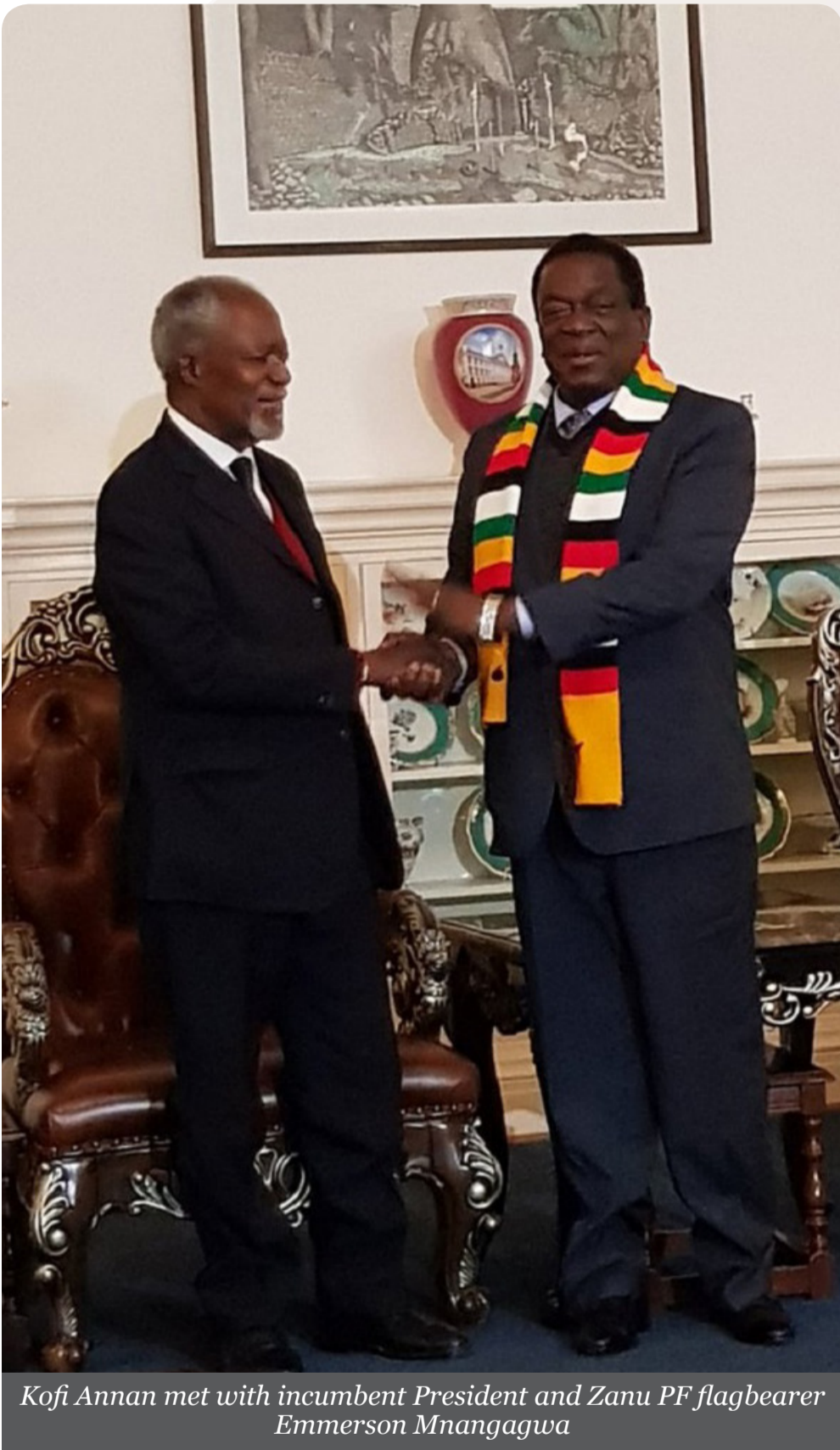
"The point is, we have 20% of unknown voters with this survey. Lastly, there is the likelihood of voter apathy which may occur because of alleged irregularities people heard of and suspect with the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission."He said.

The survey documented as well that 6 in 10 Zimbabweans said that if no presidential candidate achieves a clear victory, they would favor creation of a coalition Government of National Unity. The proportion who thought that a Government of National Unity was likely increased from 33% in early May to 41% in early July.

Although the young generation population is 60% in the country and the fact that they are the leading registered voters together with women in the country. The bigger number of women because of fear and intimidation at post-election leaves women on the side of ZANU PF. A certain percentage of the young people, 40% are on the side of ZANU PF, 20% supports MDC-T. However though, it looks like that rural populations, farming and mining communities are more on the side of ZANU PF.

# Kofi Annan Graces Zimbabwe With The Pan-African Spirit Of Democracy For Economic Growth And Development.

By Nevson Mpofu



Kofi Annan met with incumbent President and Zanu PF flagbearer Emmerson Mnangagwa

The visit to Zimbabwe by Former Secretary General of the United Nations, Kofi Annan of Ghana leaves behind Pan- African Inclusive spirit towards economic growth and development. Kofi Annan raised points of social , economic and political cherish to embrace the cultural values of peace building through Democracy , Unity of purpose , respect and dignity in

fortifying Economic Growth and Development .

Annan paid the visit at a time the country watched by all others from all angles is holding elections on 30 July this month .His visit has come at a time there is peace and flocculence of tranquility. Kofi Annan who landed in Zimbabwe on 20 July urged all the people to preach, sing and shout peace, unity, amplify voices

of Democracy to build lasting sustainable economies.

The plenipotentiary collided with the National launch of the Citizens Manifesto where scores of young people who contributed to its crafting stood and raised their voices to see their Zimbabwe dream .The visiting Pan-African son of Africa lamented in light tones the spirit of Democracy .This , he said must be embodied in Africa . Secondly the African dream to hold the Zimbabwean dream .The Zimbabwe dream was pursued from its early days when the country was said to be the bread basket of Africa.

"The economy of this country must be like how I know it . It is rich in its soil for Agriculture and food security.

"Also it is rich in minerals and in the Manufacturing sector. The bread basket must return with its full pack to feed Africa.

The Manifesto talks of a dream characterized by servant leadership, citizens' participation, and public services that up hold human dignity. This can only be achieved when we work in a state where there is no corruption.

The Manifesto looks as well on Gender Justice , Labor Justice , priority Investments in Youth ,Environmental Sustainability and Natural Resource justice , Inclusive and Diverse Society , devolution of power , democratic rights and freedoms , peace , justice and reconciliation and the disabled people's rights .

Mr Annan called Pan African Vision spirit to embody the path of Democracy for better economies to be built through what the young people want.

The young people are 60% in total population but he said they lack resources, technology and support to build their future Africa.

"Follow the path of the Millennium Development Goals and lift the Sustainable Development Goals to push

forward Africa of Economic growth led by Democratic rights of the people respected at all levels .

"Let us build a new Africa of peace, unity and togetherness. However, we need to take young people and make them leaders of today to build on their future.

"By so doing we are building new blocks to support economic growth and development. But, let us embrace the inculcate spirit to make young people drive themselves to move towards Pan African Vision.

Standing for the young people at the launch of the citizens Manifesto, Tafadzwa Muropa said it is time for the young people to calculate what they have pursued and move towards Economic targets achievements .She said young people have the spirit of Pan-Africanism but what they lack is the resource base to tap their wealth from and build a New Zimbabwe.

"Young people are 60% of the total population; this means they must lead their future, their prosperity, their country's vision and development '.

"With the young people's Manifesto, the country is set free for the young people to move forward in Leadership development through participation with the inclusivity of all citizens working in peace , justice and freedom ,

"Let us hear decisions at all levels made by the young people. Let them then be policy makers who clear the path for those to come", she said.

The visit by Kofi Annan is to observe and witness peace, unity and cherish expected values in building and regenerating communities. There are mainly three foreign observer groups in the country. These are the European Union Observer Mission, SADC, Commonwealth and African Union Observer Missions.

# Zimbabwe after Mugabe. An Imbroglia or Blessing?

By Tangwe Abraham



Robert Mugabe

the following description of his reign, “Mugabe’s savage rule over Zimbabwe was dominated by murder, bloodshed, torture, persecution of political opponents, intimidation and vote-rigging on a grand scale”. Finally, the South China Morning Post in December, 2017 had this caption “How Robert Mugabe transformed from liberator to despot, leaving legacy of economic ruin in Zimbabwe”. The foregoing is the opinion of the reign of Mugabe for 37 years in Zimbabwe captured as a cantankerous and despicable episode in the lives of Zimbabweans. The fairness of such an assessment can only be a matter of conjecture

Born in Feb. 21, 1924, near Kutama, northeast of Salisbury (now Harare, the capital of Zimbabwe), in what was then Rhodesia, his social life was inconsistent but politically, he was leader of the Zimbabwe African National Union – Patriotic Front, a socialist party founded in 1987. He remained an avowed revolutionary leader and adopted political strategies for his own survival. In view of the above mentioned puzzle, Mr. Mugabe’s headache commenced when he passed a revision of the constitution in 2000, wherein the amendment stated that Britain would have to pay compensations for seizing land from the blacks and if the British failed to do so, Mugabe would in turn, seize the lands from the white minority. It may be prudent to note that Queen Elizabeth the II of the United Kingdom had knighted Mr. Mugabe

The former Rhodesia cum Zimbabwe gained its independence from Great Britain in April, 1980 under the tutelage of the revolutionary leader called Robert Gabriel Mugabe. During his ascension to power, the former Rhodesia was reputed to have a very high standard of living and a very buoyant economy. In a bid to prove his mettle as a people oriented leader, he undertook heavy investments in all social services including health and education with the Country still reputed to still be enjoying one of the highest literacy rates in Africa. He transformed Zimbabwe in all facets and it was a land flowing with milk and honey in the 80s and 90s. In spite of such gigantic developmental strides, Zimbabwe was condemn to suffer from an epileptic and checkered history and political developments engendered

by some hypothetical and in most cases, factual suppositions of the demise of a once buoyant economy.

The departure in the most dramatic manner of Mr. Mugabe from power has remained a puzzle but very instructive and incisive for posterity. The most trying mystery begging to be unraveled remain the legacy of Robert Gabriel Mugabe. Contrary to the dictates of the times which remains a great healer of wounds, his departure over the accruing time has been undertaken with instincts rather than the sense of reflection and reasons that was require. Mugabe was never a Saint but the approach and reactions following his exit from power has created more dust than dousing its impact. Hence, it is a drama akin to one of the character in the play of famous and legendary English playwright, Shakespeare.

In his play “King Lear”, the main character Lear who was betrayed by one of his daughter Regan is seen as a character “more sinned against than sinning” by William Shakespeare. The million-dollar question is if Mugabe has been sinned against than sinning. To attempt a scan of this position, a good take-off position is the opinion held by some renown tabloids heretofore mentioned.

The New Internationalist in an examination of his departure and legacy in 2017 maintain, “He manipulated critical institutions constitutionally supposed to be independent, including ‘courts, security forces and traditional leaders among others.” In like manner, the Parallel in 2017 had the following caption “A Legacy Of Tyrannical Rule, Economic Ruin And International Isolation.” Amnesty international, 2017 in

an analysis of his legacy posited that “President Mugabe started well in his early years as leader of Zimbabwe following the transition from British colonial rule. He oversaw heavy investment in Zimbabwe’s social services. Areas including health and education saw dramatic improvements, with the country still enjoying one of the highest literacy rates in Africa. The results of this significant investment in education are there for everyone to see but presided over the brutal repression of political opponents, established a culture of impunity for himself and his cronies.” The British Telegraph captioned one of its write up following his ouster in November 2017 as the “Legacy of a ruthless tyrant who presided over bloodshed and persecution”. The Independent newspaper in December, 2017 had

## Zimbabwe after Mugabe. An Imbroglia or Blessing?... Continues

because of his dedication and exploits as a great leader for his people. Furtherance to this, he met the British Prime Minister at the time Tony Blair and reminded him of the Lancaster house agreement in 1979 on the need of footing the bills of compensation to the white minority by giving him the means to buy the land and hand it back to black Zimbabweans. Tony Blair adopted a volte-face and adopted the cane and not the carrot. In anger and frustration, Mugabe expropriated the lands from the white minority and handed it over to the black population especially the veterans who assisted him to wrestle Zimbabwe from the British.

The essence of this brief narrative is to size up the incessant and sustained doses of such subjective outrage and invectives against his humble personality. Granted as earlier noted that he was not a saint, what therefore transformed a development oriented, independent minded, courageous and fearless personality into such a monster over night? What happened to Zimbabwe under the same leader for 37 years to suddenly slump into a biting economic recession, unemployment skyrocketing inflation that was completely uncontrollable? Is it a simple coincidence that these sinister and misguided actions were thrust upon these people only after the seizure of land from the white minority?

All written documents and news occupying public space must at all times be cooked and spiced such that an overdose of any ingredient is completely abhorred. Any information meant for public consumption that lacks a disinterested handling is fit for the dustbin. The

sudden change of attitude by Mugabe is base on the fact that completely was thrown off balance when he discovered that there was a western conspiracy against him immediately following the seizure of land from the white



Tangwe Abraham

minority Zimbabweans; firstly, they were bent on having him to reverse his position and hand back the land to the white minority. Secondly, they wanted him out of power or regime change at all cost. To ensure this, the then opposition leader Morgan Tsvangirira was lying in wait for the opportune moment to take charge. Mugabe sensed this and his rumored departure from power in the early 2000s was ditched.

In view of this, the western allies decided and slammed Zimbabwe with biting economic sanctions that were intended to suffocate life out of the people of Zimbabwe. With the sanctions, even food and medicine was denied these people and the fiscal situation of Zimbabwe was in a complete impasse. In response, President Mugabe kept printing money in complete frustration and dejection. In this condition, he was embolden, ruthless with

anyone sympathizing with the west and harder with his opponents. In spite of such prevailing circumstances, he never lose his focus for his people and despite his bashing by his opponents, he enjoyed undivided loyalty from a

vast array of the people.

Robert Gabriel Mugabe though chastised as a villain and a rogue leader in actual fact never was the person being portrayed. In the years of his stewardship, he stood firmly the treatment of Africans as a content suited for dancing only in the position of second fiddle. He had a swift tongue, reflective in all his thoughts and a sworn activist. In an interview in New African magazine in May 2007, President Mugabe asserted and rightly so that "let it not be forgotten that if imperialism and colonialism were ever solidly fought and defeated, it was here in Southern Africa that the real fight against imperialism took place". This situation continued with the likes of Mugabe till his fall from power. The economic sanctions impose against Zimbabwe undermine their resolve to break even and carry out developmental initiatives.

During his reign before the year preceding the land expropriation, democracy was upheld, the rule of law was en vogue and respect of humans rights held sway. Like every other leader, shortcomings were notice but his acts were consistent and coherent. This went on successfully irrespective of the declaration by the American statedepartment 5 April 2007 that they were doing all to ensure regime change. From all intents and purposes, the regime of Mr. Mugabe like noted earlier "has been sinned against than sinning" and the Western media has arrogated to themselves the role of pinning him down as a devil!

Portraying him as a dictator and claiming that he manipulated critical institutions constitutionally supposed to be independent, including 'courts, security forces and traditional leaders among others is unwittingly exhibiting bias and subjectivity in the highest sense of the word. There is no politician who can survive the game without this typology of action. It is in reaction to such maneuvering that the former South African President Thabo Mbeki in a discussion at the University of South Africa (UNISA) on August 23 2013, he took on the position taken by the western allies of the Movement of Democratic Change (MDC-Tsvangirira) in context by stating that "I get very, very agitated

about Zimbabwe, because it's very, very clear that the offensive against Zimbabwe is an offensive against the rest of the continent . Of course, that offensive is not in the first instance about Zimbabwe, it's about the future of our continent. So the Zimbabweans have been in the frontline in terms of defending our right as Africans to determine our future, and they are paying a price for that. I think it is our responsibility as African intellectuals to join them, the Zimbabweans, to say No!"

, Gone are the days that we allowed ourselves to be pull to the slaughter by those who considered us as only fit for the periphery. The quality paradigms we need as a people behooves on us to remain visionary, pro-active, steadfast , open and inclusive in our attitudes. Mugabe as a leader achieved a lot and registered shortcomings that can never be pull under the rug or dismissed with the wave of the hand. Moving on by correcting the wrongs and restructuring the successes is the way forward. Unfortunately, the present leadership in Zimbabwe is much more steep in the old guards dance of the vampires!

\*Tangwe is a Ph.D. student researcher in the University of Bamberg in Germany. He is a social critic, trade unionist, human rights activist and political commentator.



# Strong Coalition of Justice Seekers Needed for Rome Statute To Fulfill Its Mission-ICC Bar President Charles Taku

By Ajong Mbapndah L

“We must look beyond race and geographic considerations to build a strong coalition of justice seekers to make the Rome Statute a living testament to the values it sought to enthrone for a safe and prosperous world under the rule of law,” says ICC Bar Association President Chief Charles Taku. Speaking in an exclusive interview with PAV, the erudite Lawyer sheds light on the ICCBA, perceptions of Africans on the ICC, the fate of leaders like Laurent Gbagbo and Charles Taylor, and the political crisis raging in Cameroon.

**PAV: Chief Charles Taku, congratulations for your recent election as President of the ICC Bar Association, can you start by introducing Association, its role and membership?**

**Chief Taku:**

Thanks so much. The International Criminal Court Bar Association is the recognized independent voice of the victims’ counsel, defense counsel and their support staff appearing before the International Criminal Court. This critical institutional recognition was given by the Assembly of State Parties of the Rome Statute two years ago. A unique perspective of the ICCBA is its diverse membership. It represents all the major legal cultures of the world with its membership and associate or affiliate membership opened to lawyers and legal scholars from all parts of the world.



Chief Charles Taku

The ICCBA provides a platform and a voice for the world far beyond the ICC institutional framework to contribute to the administration of a free, fair, dispassionate international criminal justice that meets the standards and thresholds established by the original objectives of the Rome Statute. Coming in the threshold of the 20th anniversary of the Rome Statute, I will dedicate my mandate as the President of the ICCBA in promoting and protecting these universal values.

**PAV: Can you give us some insights into the elections that brought you to the helm of the ICC Bar Association?**

**Chief Taku:**

The membership of the International Criminal Court Bar Association is wide and diverse. The election was conducted electronically to enable members to vote from their respective locations world-wide. A candidate must be nominated by five members to be eligible to contest positions within the association. The elections for membership of the Executive Council and Committees were hotly contested but I was the only candidate nominated for the post of President.

**PAV: How does one become a lawyer with the ICC?**

**Chief Taku:**

The ICC rules contain an elaborate procedure for the admission of counsel on the list of counsel appearing before the court. List counsel must be persons of high moral and ethical integrity, sound educational and professional experience in international law. Counsel with at least ten years of professional experience or university professors may qualify for admission on the list of counsel. The court retains a list of assistants to counsel with the same ethical and moral standards but with experience of at least seven years of professional legal practice. Admission to a national bar association and a police report

establishing the non-conviction status of the applicant by any court and a certificate of good conduct by the President of the applicant’s bar association must be submitted along with an online application form which is available at the ICC official website.

**PAV: Under what platform did Barrister Taku run on and what should be expected of your presidency in this term?**

**Chief Taku:**

The ICCBA given the institutional approval of the Assembly of State Parties at the threshold of the 20th anniversary of the Rome Statute. This came in time to attempt to correct a significant error in the statutory framework of the Rome Statute that failed to acknowledge a role for counsel for the defence and victims. I strongly campaigned over the years for the correction of this statutory deficit and the Assembly of State Parties of the Rome Statute finally granted the International Court Bar Association, its seal of approval.

As I have stated earlier, the ICCBA provides a platform and a voice for the world far beyond the ICC institutional framework to contribute to the administration of a free, fair dispassionate international criminal justice that meets the standards and thresholds established by the original objectives of the Rome Statute. I will make sure that platform fulfills its mandate. I will strongly urge an amendment

## Strong Coalition of Justice Seekers Needed for Rome Statute To Fulfill Its Mission-ICC Bar President Charles Taku... Continues

of the rules by the Presidency of the ICC to make membership of the ICCBA of all counsel, assistants to counsel and auxiliary staff mandatory to ensure the respect for ethical standards, training and the protection of the rights of counsel and participants of court proceedings. Significantly, I will make the ICCBA a credible gatekeeper of fair trails at the ICC with a reformed policy of non-discrimination, accountability, respect for the rule of rule and the fight against impunity. I will vigorously fight against impunity and all forms of prejudice during my mandate. During my mandate, the ICCBA will sign cooperation agreements with international bar associations, courts and tribunals world-wide with a view to encouraging institutional dialogue and the mutual recognition and respect of key actors working towards the same objectives of fighting impunity, the respect of the rule of law and making the world a better place for all.

**PAV: Someone remarked recently that almost all top leadership positions in and around the ICC are occupied by Africans, how significant is this?**

**Chief Taku:**

Shortly after my election, a significant association of journalists called "Journalists for Journalists" grouping almost one hundred journalists and news organs operating at the ICC made that statement. That statement was contextualized to the criticism that the ICC has targeted Africans since it was established. The journalists asked

this question: "Now the President of the ICC, the Chief Prosecutor and head of the bar association are all African. Is the ICC still "the European Court" for Africa?". My position which must not be conflated with that of ICCBA which has not commented on the controversy, is that the question as framed is misplaced. Those who framed the problem as "European Vs Africa" miscomprehended the problem. As a key critic of the selective intervention policies that target Africa, I argued that participants in crimes committed in Africa are not exclusively Africans. Indeed, key states and institutions in the EU and some of the world powers in the Security Council that have been driving the intervention policies in Africa are the sponsors of the wars and crimes committed in the continent. My concern and that of many others is that the battle for the soul of the ICC has distracted the focus on its key statutory objectives, come from the key economic and neo-colonial blocs that are the sponsors and motivators of crimes in Africa. This is not a matter of who heads the institutions of the court. It has nothing to do with the race of the key office holders but to ability of the office holders no matter their race or origin to possess the independence, the moral and ethical integrity to provide leadership towards the realization of the original objectives of the Rome Statute. These were the promises that the Rome Statute held for the future of humanity. These were the promises that inspired 36 Africa ratify the Rome Statute establishing the ICC. Have office holders lived to those promises? The judgment of history will determine.

However, three persons of African origin holding key positions has nothing to do with the polarizing selective investigations and prosecutions in the ICC African Situations. The lackeys and puppets provided weapons prosecute the wars in which massive crimes are committed with impunity in the continent of Africa to safeguard neo-colonial economic and geo-political interests are Africans. They must be held accountable just as state, none state actors and individuals of foreign nationality providing the arms for the perpetration of the crimes coming within the Rome Statute. The Rome Statute did not make any distinction on racial, religious, political, national or other

of victims and justice seekers world-wide. We must look beyond race and geographic considerations to build a strong coalition of justice seekers, imbued with a common spirit or resolve to make the Rome Statute a living testament to the values it sought to enthrone for a safe and prosperous world under the rule of law.

**PAV: And if we may talk on a few specific cases concerning Africa, what is the situation with Jean Pierre Bemba of the D.R.Congo?**

**Chief:**

Mr Jean Claude Bemba was acquitted by the Appeals Chamber of the ICC in the main case in which he was previously

acquittal has aroused passionate debates in many circles. There are a few lessons however to learn from his prosecution, conviction and then acquittal on appeal. The first is about the wrong perception by many people that once a person is charged and detained at the ICC, he is presumed guilty of the crimes for which he is charged. Unless he confesses to the charges alleged against him or her, an accused is presumed innocent. There is always a possibility as I have explained elsewhere that the Prosecutor may consciously or unconsciously make a prosecutorial decision to charge a wrong suspect for crimes which he or her may not be factually and /or legally responsible



Laurent Gbagbo.

discriminatory basis.

What I know is that each mandate holder, no matter his race or origin must not betray the trust conferred on us by our peers and the millions

convicted and sentenced to 18 years. He is a freeman, participating in the politics of his country the Democratic Republic of Congo where he has a very large following. His

under the ICC Statute. The next lesson is that although they belong to key institutions of the ICC, the Judges and the Prosecutor hold different mandates and their roles

**Strong Coalition of Justice Seekers Needed for Rome Statute To Fulfill Its Mission-ICC Bar President Charles Taku...Continues**

in the proceedings coming before the court are different. The Judges are an independent organ of the court. They make their decisions based on the law and the facts. The decisions of the Judges may be tested on appeal. This is not the same with the Prosecutor whose policies decisions to investigate and prosecute are not subject to questioning by the court. The Prosecutor make policy decisions which may or may not stand the test of scrutiny in trial proceedings. Finally, the mandate of the ICC is not intended to fulfill political objectives but to objectives clearly defined in the Rome Statute.

**PAV: What about leaders like Charles Taylor and Laurent Gbagbo of Ivory Coast, any prospects that they may see freedom at some point?**

**Chief Taku:**

Charles Taylor was tried and convicted in the Special Court for Sierra Leone. He is serving his sentence in a jail in England under a judicial agreement between the Special Court for Sierra Leone and England. The special agreements and memoranda of understanding on the serving of sentences, make provisions for early release or release on medical or other grounds. Yes indeed, Charles Taylor may indeed be granted early release if the requirements for such a judicial decision are met.

With President Laurent Gbagbo, his case is pending before the ICC Trial Chamber and I cannot venture to speculate what the outcome of the case may be.

**PAV: What is your reading of the political situation in your native Cameroon especially**

**on the fighting and gross human rights abuses in the North West and South West regions of the country?**

**Chief Taku:**

On the basis of statements made by Cameroon government officials themselves which are well documented, the scale of the crimes committed by government soldiers and operatives are crimes against humanity, war crimes and genocide. I have come to this conclusion based on statements and evidence made public by civilian and military government officials and commanders. Of course, there is a lot more evidence out there from credible reports filed by Amnesty International and other human rights organizations, diplomatic missions accredited to Cameroon and the physical perpetrators themselves. I have examined the declaration of war statement made by President Paul Biya on his arrival from a conference in Abidjan Cote D'Ivoire in November 2017. He clearly defined the enemy he deployed the army to take out as Southern Cameroons civilians whom he called terrorists. Although he in subsequent speeches attempted to nuance his definition, that was insignificant and did not affect the orders to exterminate and commit crimes on a massive scale under the pretext of waging war against terrorism. He was aware of the definition of terrorists in the war against terrorism against Boko Haram carried out by an international alliance in which Cameroon is a party. Characterizing Southern Cameroonians freedom seekers as terrorists placed the direct responsibility for the crimes perpetrated on the President and his

subsidiary civilian and military commanders.

**PAV: Is the ICC aware of the situation in those regions and would you say some of the excesses there fall in the category of cases the ICC could entertain?**

**Chief Taku:**

Cameroon signed unto the Rome Statute establishing the court but did not ratify it. Cameroon is therefore not a state party to the Rome Statute. Does this preclude the ICC from intervening in the situation in Cameroon? The answer is no. The Security Council may refer the situation to the ICC. If crimes against citizens of Cameroon are committed by Cameroon in the territory of a state party, the ICC may intervene. The abduction of Seseku Ayuk Tabe and others who were under the protection of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees and their deportation to Cameroon are criminalized by the Rome Statute. The massive deportation of Southern Cameroons civilians from their ancestral homes in Manyu division towards Nigeria and the cross-border abductions, and targeted killing of many of them in the territory of Nigeria falls within the jurisdiction of the Rome Statute. A senior member of the Nigeria intelligence service Babagana Mungano a national security adviser to President Buhari confessed his involvement and that of his government to these crimes, suggesting a coordinated inter-government policy of criminality. These crimes occurred at a time the ICC Prosecutor is conducting a preliminary examination in the crimes committed by Nigerian soldiers and

security operatives against civilians in the war against Boko Haram. The crimes of the multinational forces in which Cameroonian forces are participants are surely under the radar of the preliminary investigation which has been on since 2010.

The recent execution of a woman of Nigerian nationality and her child by Cameroon soldiers deployed to the multinational force against Boko Haram and its outcry must surely have attracted the attention of ICC investigators. The unsuccessful denial by Issa Tchiroma whose key role in inciting genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes are well documented against provides an official character to the crimes. The magnitude of the crimes committed and its progression towards a wider escalation in the Gulf of Guinea, and the entire

region may irresistibly end in the United Nations establishing a Special Court for Cameroon. I do not see an alternative to the creation of this court if the international community genuinely wants to abate this genocide and the international crimes that will sooner or later engulf the entire sub-region. The magnitude of the crimes and the resolve of the Southern Cameroons to fight on may already have made any form of dispute settlement that will retain Cameroon as one nation impossible.

**PAV: Thanks for granting this interview Chief**

**Chief Taku:**

You most welcome.



**US-AFRICA**  
Cybersecurity Group

**US-Africa Cybersecurity Group (USAFCG)**

**2020 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
#220 Washington, DC 20006  
T: +1 703 831 7584**

**E: [relations@usafcg.com](mailto:relations@usafcg.com)**

**<https://usafcg.com>**

**©2018. All Rights Reserved.**

**USAFCG is a registered Limited Liability Company in the District of Columbia, United States.**

# Namibia to convene second land summit in October

By Andreas Thomas



Deputy Prime Minister, Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah

**W**indhoek – The Namibian Government has kick started with the preparation process for the hosting of the national second conference on land scheduled for the first week of October 2018.

The main objective of the conference is to review the progress made towards the implementation of resolutions taken at the first land conference in 1991. It will further deliberate over what more could be done to fast track the land resettlement programme.

President Hage Geingob during the opening of the first Cabinet meeting on the 8th February 2018 directed that the Second National Land Conference be convened from the 1-5th October 2018 in Windhoek, under the auspices of the Office of the Prime Minister.

The land summit was first scheduled for

September 2017 to address challenges in the land resettlement programme.

Deputy Prime Minister Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah emphasized on Friday that the conference “aims to create a platform where Namibians will be accorded an opportunity to deliberate on the current land reform programme and other emerging land related issues. “Therefore, the Government and its people guided by the country’s constitution will convene the Land Conference to adopt policies, programmes and measures that could accelerate land reform programme in a democratic and sustainable manner, for the benefit of all Namibians”.

To ensure inclusivity in the run-up to the land summit, Nanda-Ndaitwah told a group of foreign diplomats that a National Preparatory Committee has been set up and it’s

operational.

The 32 member committee that was set up in May 2018 consists of government officials, farmers union, trade unions, academics, civil society and NGOs, traditional authorities and political parties.

“The Second National Land Conference will be preceded by regional consultations in the 14 administrative regions of the country. Regional consultations aim to engage ordinary citizen at regional levels to deliberate over the land issues and recommend possible mitigation measures. The outcomes of regional consultations shall therefore be transmitted to the second National Land Conference for further scrutiny and consideration,” said the deputy premiere, who also doubles as Minister of International Relations and Cooperation.

These regional consultations will take place from the 18-20th July 2018, and members of the National Preparatory Committee will be divided into teams to carry out those consultations.

Land has been a topical issue in Namibia for many years. Majority of Namibians have been presurising the government to address the skewed distribution that the Southern African country inherited at independence in March 1990.

There is 69.6 million hectares of agricultural land in Namibia of which 36.2 million hectares of 52% is owned by less than 5000 white farmers, while the majority black Namibians share 33.5 million hectares of the communal land.

The 1991 National Conference on Land Reform and the Land Question was hailed the

conference as a milestone and pacesetter for the Namibian land reform process.

The government intended to redistribute to 15 million hectares of the freehold land in commercial agricultural areas to the previously disadvantaged Namibians.

Land resettlement takes place in terms of the Agricultural (Commercial) Land Reform Act of 1995 (Act No.6 of 1995) through the willing-buy-willing seller concept.

Over the years, land reform in Namibia has proved to be a complex and slow moving process, and nearly three decades after independence, the Government still found itself with records that are unsatisfying to the large population of country.

Landless Namibians especially from the Herero and Nama communities south of the country, whose land was dispossessed during colonial times, are calling on government to ditch the willing-buy-willing seller concept and expropriate land without compensation.

They also want the government to recognize the issue of ancestral land, which was not discussed at the first land dialogue.

They are demanding the return of land that was forcibly taken from their ancestors by the Germans and subsequent Apartheid South African colonial administrations from 1883 to 1989. Most of the Ovaherero and Nama land was taken following the genocide war of 1904-1908, during which the Germans almost wiped out the two communities in southern Namibia.



# The Africa Gas Association

## THE LEADING VOICE OF AFRICA'S NATURAL GAS AND ENERGY INDUSTRY

**WHO WE ARE:** The Africa Gas Association sponsors and participates in a number of forums, partnerships and coalitions to foster dialogue on energy policy and achieve a better understanding of natural gas in Africa.

**OUR VISION:** The Africa Gas Association is the leading voice of the natural gas and energy industry in Africa. It seeks to become one of the most influential and respectful organizations in the global natural gas and energy industry.

**OUR MISSION:** TAGA's mission is to influence and support policies which promote a strong, viable and sustainable natural gas industry in Africa and beyond in an efficient and environmentally friendly manner.

**MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS:** When you join THE AFRICA GAS Association, you join a community with thousands of leaders in the industry. THE AFRICA GAS Association provides many opportunities to get Involved, learn and network in various settings – from intimate dinners to the annual conventions & exhibition, the new big Africa conference featuring experts and partners from all over the world.

**ACCESS:** We are your direct line to Africa, Washington, Europe, and Middle East and to other industry benefits.

**Advocacy:** THE AFRICA GAS is your voice in Washington, Africa and other industry. We work on national, regional and international policy that will help your business grow.

**Event Discounts:** Members receive generous discounts on registration and exhibiting at the industry's conventions and meetings.

**Contact:**[info@theafricagas.com](mailto:info@theafricagas.com)

# What African Governments Should Do To Boost Agriculture

By Moses Hategeka

“Our Son, our farms soil fertility have for years been drastically declining and so is our farms yields and thus we are poor and food insecure and unable to feed our families well. We have no collateral to access credit to enable us, purchase fertilizers, inputs, and agricultural equipment like walking tractors for use in tilling our lands. As you can see, most of us are elderly and less energetic and yet the traditional tools we currently use requires energetic and young people, who unfortunately have all run to cities in search of better income generating jobs/businesses” Says, a group of women smallholder farmers, in Karonga district, Malawi, during, our practical on farm training workshop that included training farmers in Karonga district in modern tilling, planting, and fertilizer application techniques.

When asked what makes it difficult for them to access credit, Their Leader responded that, “The patriarch setup of our society and cultural norms here, are too discriminative, as they don’t allow women to own land. She went on to say that: Women here don’t own the lands on which they farm and therefore cannot present land a collateral to seek credit from banks”.

The average age of smallholder farmers in Africa is 65 implying that the smallholder farming is dominated by aging, who in most cases, are traditionally oriented and finds it hard to easily grasp and adopt modern farming techniques.

Agricultural policy



makers in Africa, must begin addressing questions such as, Why is it that agricultural sector in Africa is not attractive to the youth and what can be done to make farming enjoyable and profitable to the youth?

This bleak situation is prevailing in all African countries and needs to be resolved, if African countries are to attain rural transformation and sustainable development that is all inclusive factoring in the fact that, agriculture in Africa is dominated by smallholder farmers.

Smallholder farmers in Africa, needs money to acquire suitable new agricultural technologies to boost their farm yields but continues to face huge dilemma, in accessing agricultural credit financing due to lack of collateral and the matter is made worse by traditional norms in some communities, where land is communally owned and one cannot even dare to claim ownership over it and cannot therefore present it anywhere to seek agricultural financing loan.

But let us ask ourselves a question. Why is it that African countries have

failed and are still failing to develop an agricultural financing model to replace land as collateral and what needs to be done?

I have extensively traveled in rural communities of several African countries, especially, Eastern, Southern and Western African countries, training smallholder farmers, in new evolving methods of profitable farming, and practically witnessed, the absence of agricultural technologies, knowledge transfer, and lack of access to credit, predicaments which the smallholder farmers are facing. This scenario is making it hard for them to jump out of food insecurity and poverty trap.

What then needs to be done? African governments together with banking institutions operating in African countries, must develop a financing model, that replaces land as collateral, which would be like in form of the governments depositing an evolving agricultural development fund, in selected banking institutions, for disbursement on an interest free basis, to mapped out smallholder farmers, who on after

harvesting and selling their produce, must return back, the interest free borrowed funds, to these selected banks, so that the other smallholder farmers can be covered in an evolving scheme.

This must be done hand in hand, with governments organizing smallholder farmers, into cooperatives and giving them a production enhancement morale, initially, for example, by constructing for them postharvest storage and small scale value addition facilities. This will make them not only to avoid postharvest losses, but to also be in better position, to negotiate for better prices for their produce.

African governments, must also seriously persuade global leading manufacturers of agricultural equipment like AGCO, John Deere CLAAS, among others, to massively begin producing products for smallholder farmers too, and not only for large scale farmers, who for decades have been and still are their main target market. African smallholder farmers need suitable equipment such as, A70-100 PS tractors and not A600 PS tractors.

One year back, while on, a practical field learning tour of, CLAAS factory, one of the world’s leading manufacturers of Agricultural machinery, with corporate headquarters in Harsewinkel, Westphalia, Germany, with production facilities worldwide, in countries such as, Hungary, Nebraska, USA, Southern Russia, India, and China, I only witnessed monster agricultural machinery, suitable only for very large scale farming.

However the good news is that, these global agricultural equipment manufacturing brands, have all set foot in African countries, and have appreciated the need to start producing products for smallholder farmers too, and some are in fact, producing walking tractors, which a few small scale farmers are finding it easy in using, in boosting their production. These walking tractors, are still out of reach, for millions of smallholder farmers in Africa, and the onus, is therefore on African governments to develop a funding model that will enable their smallholders farmers to get these much needed suitable equipment.

In sum, the skyrocketing Africa’ population, which is expected to double from current 1.2 to 2.4 billion people by 2050, necessitates, that, the continent, must devise food production strategies, that will, rapidly result into massive production of food, on sustainable basis, in the next 20 years, failure of which, will leave a greater percentage of its people trapped in food insecurity and poverty scenario, with resultant impact of widened unrest, wars, and crime increase, and to avert such catastrophes, African government must do, whatever it takes, to help its smallholders farmers access suitable equipment and inputs, to boost their farm yields.

Moses Hategeka, is a Ugandan based Independent Governance Researcher, Public Affairs Analyst and Writer.

Email : moseswiseman2000@gmail.com

# How Africa can embrace an AI-enabled future

By Zoaib Hoosen

It's no longer news that Artificial Intelligence (AI) will be a driving force behind the Fourth Industrial Revolution, with the global economic returns of this revolution expected to be in the region of about \$16 trillion.

Along with these returns, AI is also expected to create 2.3 million new jobs by 2020, according to Gartner.

However, if we look at previous revolutions, history shows us that these revolutions have always been accompanied by a brief transition of temporary job loss followed by a period of recovery where job creation moves into more positive territory.

This means that we all need to take steps now to prepare AI in the future.

## Leapfrogging aboard the AI train

Currently, no African country is among the top 10 countries expected to benefit most from AI and automation. But, the continent has the potential to catch up with the rest of world if we act fast.

To play catch up, we must take advantage of our best and most powerful resource - our human capital. According to a report by the World Economic Forum (WEF), more than 60 percent of the population in sub-Saharan Africa is under the age of 25.

These are the people who are poised to create a future where humans and AI can work together for the good of society. In fact, the most recent WEF Global Shapers survey found that almost 80 percent of youth believe technology like AI is creating jobs rather than destroying them.



Microsoft Zoaib Hoosen, Microsoft MD

Staying ahead of the trends to stay employed

AI developments are expected to impact existing jobs, as AI can replicate certain activities at greater speed and scale. In some areas, AI could learn faster than humans, if not yet as deeply.

According to Gartner, while AI will improve the productivity of many jobs and create millions more new positions, it could impact many others. The simpler and less creative the job, the earlier, a bot for example, could replace it.

It's important to stay ahead of the trends and find opportunities to expand our knowledge and skills while learning how to work more closely and symbiotically with technology.

Another global study by Accenture, found that the adoption of AI will create several new job categories requiring important and yet surprising skills. These include trainers, who are tasked with teaching AI systems how to perform; explainers, who bridge the gap between technologist and business leader; and sustainers, who ensure that AI systems are operating as designed.

It's clear that

successfully integrating human intelligence with AI, so they co-exist in a two-way learning relationship, will become more critical than ever.

## Combining STEM with the arts

Young people have a leg up on those already in the working world because they can easily develop the necessary skills for these new roles. It's therefore essential that our education system constantly evolves to equip youth with the right skills and way of thinking to be successful in jobs that may not even exist yet.

As the division of tasks between man and machine changes, we must re-evaluate the type of knowledge and skills imparted to future generations.

For example, technical skills will be required to design and implement AI systems, but interpersonal skills, creativity and emotional intelligence will also become crucial in giving humans an advantage over machines.

"At one level, AI will require that even more people specialise in digital skills and data science. But skilling-up for an AI-powered

world involves more than science, technology, engineering and math. As computers behave more like humans, the social sciences and humanities will become even more important. Languages, art, history, economics, ethics, philosophy, psychology and human development courses can teach critical, philosophical and ethics-based skills that will be instrumental in the development and management of AI solutions." This is according to Microsoft president, Brad Smith, and EVP of AI and research, Harry Shum, who recently authored the book "The Future Computed", which primarily deals with AI and its role in society.

Interestingly, institutions like Stanford University are already implementing this forward-thinking approach. The university offers a programme called CS+X, which integrates its computer science degree with humanities degrees, resulting in a Bachelor of Arts and Science qualification.

Revisiting laws and regulation

For this type of evolution to happen, the onus is on policy makers to revisit

current laws and even bring in new regulations. Policy makers need to identify the groups most at risk of losing their jobs and create strategies to reintegrate them into the economy.

Simultaneously, though AI could be hugely beneficial in areas such as curbing poor access to healthcare and improving diagnoses for example, physicians may avoid using this technology for fear of malpractice. To avoid this, we need regulation that closes the gap between the pace of technological change and that of regulatory response. It will also become essential to develop a code of ethics for this new ecosystem.

Preparing for the future With the recent convergence of a transformative set of technologies, economies are entering a period in which AI has the potential to overcome physical limitations and open up new sources of value and growth.

To avoid missing out on this opportunity, policy makers and business leaders must prepare for, and work toward, a future with AI. We must do so not with the idea that AI is simply another productivity enhancer. Rather, we must see AI as the tool that can transform our thinking about how growth is created.

It comes down to a choice of our people and economies being part of the technological disruption, or being left behind.

\*Author is Microsoft Managing Director

# Akwa Ibom - Sustainable Development in Nigeria's Prime Investment Destination

By Udeme Etukeyen



Akwa Ibom

**A**KWA IBOM, Nigeria, July 16, 2018/ -- Seen from afar, Nigeria is one large African nation and the continent's most robust economy, but within the powerhouse that Nigeria represents there are several engines that drive the economy. Best known is Lagos State, which includes Nigeria's largest city and economic capital, but beyond there a less known success stories that merit global attention.

Of Nigeria's 36 states, debatably the most impressive is Akwa Ibom state, led by Governor Udom Emmanuel, elected only three years ago. Just last month Governor Emmanuel commissioned seven new roads with 34 additional roads planned

to provide over 2000 jobs to the state and stimulate commerce among Akwa Ibom's population of four million.

A noted adherent of impact investing, Emmanuel selects projects for his state that add value beyond the sums marked on contracts or the profit margins racked up by contractors. Public benefit must be calculated in far more sensitive and inclusive terms, and Governor Emmanuel's Sustainable Development Agenda over the last 1096 days does just that.

## AGRICULTURE

With Africa's 65% of its land still unexploited and food imports debilitating local economies, Akwa Ibom's developmental



Akwa Ibom State Governor, Udom-Emmanuel

finance strategy included a technical committee on agriculture and food sufficiency which broadened the "Dakkada" mindset in youth people, women and the elderly. With increased acreage of cultivated land growing

by over 40,000 hectares comprising now 11,000 hectares earmarked for an ongoing coconut plantation, 24,000 hectares for new rice projects including two rice mills, 3,000 hectares of cassava plantations with

rehabilitated processing facilities for garri, cassava pellets, flour, and ethanol, and the rehabilitation of competitive oil palm and cocoa estates, Akwa Ibom's position as a leading food producer and exporter in Nigeria is assured.

The state government has facilitated thousands of high yield seedlings of oil palm, plantain suckers, maize and citrus seeds to ensure optimal source of farm input for its local population. The state policy on agriculture is firmly hinged on mitigating food scarcity, ensuring food sufficiency and security which impacts over a million households.

The Ibom Greenhouse Project has induced export capabilities for vegetables, tomatoes, cucumber, encouraging a massive response by young farmers to take up various forms of agriculture as a new economic mainstay. The government via partnerships with investors has also established a fertilizer blending plant at Abak, a meat processing facility project at Itam, a cattle ranch at Adadia, and an Akwa prime hatchery at Mbiaya and other strategic agribusinesses and related technical services.

To date over 20,000 hectares of land have been cleared providing businesses and economic activity for equipment owners, farmers, input producers and

direct/indirect jobs for households within the state and beyond. Akwa Ibom is positioned to feed her people and indeed the nation, making Akwa Ibom an attractive investment destination for those interested in the agribusiness sector.

## INDUSTRIALIZATION

The innovative industrialization policy of Akwa Ibom State merits some comment too. Leading a much-needed and highly progressive departure from an epoch of oil revenue dependency and federal allocations Akwa Ibom state has understood that the key to industrialization is increasing power generation. The governor has seen to this by securing additional licensing for the state-owned power company increasing capacity from 190MW to 685MW, unlocking distribution via massive investment in substations and feeder lines, and installing a network of new power infrastructure around the state enabling parts of the state capital with 15-18 hours of power per day.

Dedicated lines and infrastructure have targeted special projects such as the airport, the Ibom Specialty Hospital and the industrial clusters in Onna, Uyo and Itu.

With both road and power infrastructure being addressed, the state government has pursued its first phase of its ambitious industrialization agenda by delivering an Electric

Digital Metering Plant providing metering solutions that unbundle the legitimate concerns of investors, namely tracking power tariffs.

The state is also proud of its strategic investment in syringe manufacturing with capacity large enough to cater to Africa's 2.4 billion-strong demand for

of the 350-strong human-power needs of the cluster.

As part of the overall vision, companies like the Peacock Paints Factory in Etinan have received fresh funding and rehabilitation, several state-owned enterprises and assets have become the prize possession of new investors who've

facilities increasing economic impact with 200 new, direct jobs and 400-500 indirect jobs, and creating foreign exchange opportunities with these products as exports.

With several MOUs and EOIs in place, the state continues to be the second highest destination for FDI in Nigeria, and prospects

## OVERALL SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT

In creating the Economic Strategy and Investment Plan, Governor Emmanuel has been clear in stating that a major plank of his government would be to harness developmental projects that would deliver maximum returns on investment and create

employment opportunities for the people of the state while catalyzing food production. His vision for the future is "to transform the economy of our state via industrialization and sustain public-private-sector initiatives, and thereby opening up opportunities for growth and improved living standards," the governor stated, «and to continuously develop, mobilize, and empower our women and youth via planned and well-articulated capacity-building programmes...» The state's target, he said was to «provide trade, commerce and tourism between Akwa Ibom and the rest of Nigeria, and in fact, the rest of the world."

**Contact :**  
**etukeyen@gmail.com**



Akwa Ibom -Governor Udom Inspecting Farm produce in Akwa Ibom

syringes by producing 350 million units with capacity to upscale to 1 billion, adequate to cater for both local and international markets.

The state has also increased progress in a proposed flour mill within the Onna Industrial Cluster.

Hundreds of Akwa Ibom daughters and sons have been trained abroad to take up various technical and managerial aspects of these investments as part

encouraged that resources be assigned to business development from the state's investment structure.

The recent establishment of the Itu Cluster which houses the Akwa Ibom Enterprise and Employment Scheme (AKEES) has promoted the creation and opening of a state-of-the-arts toothpick factory, pencil production and particle wood processing facility as well as bamboo conversion

for growth in the SME sector look promising. International development agencies and the private sector are both positioned to forge the development of the state's growing MSME sector. As negotiations result in executable action the huge FDI gap between Lagos and Akwa Ibom states lessens while under-developed opportunities in the later promise to render Akwa Ibom an increasingly attractive investment destination.



Godswill Akpabio International Stadium, Uyo



Uyo City, Akwa Ibom state

# Africa50 Meeting: Kenyatta and Adesina call for accelerated private sector investment in infrastructure

PAV

**K**enyatta announced Kenya would double its current shareholding investment in Africa50 to US\$ 100 million

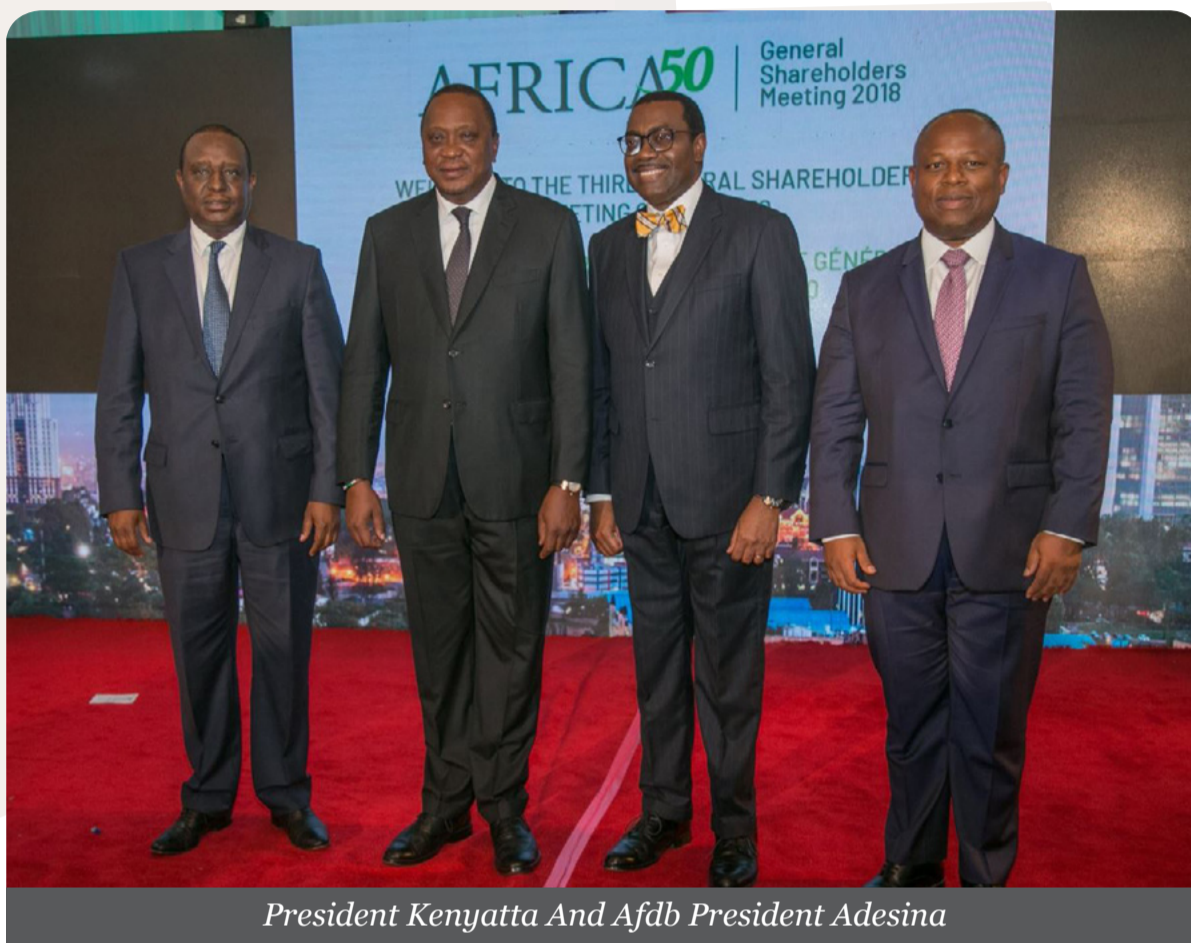
NAIROBI, Kenya, July 19, 2018/ -- President Uhuru Kenyatta has made an urgent call for developing and funding bankable infrastructure projects to drive Africa's growth agenda.

In his keynote address at the Africa50 General Shareholders Meeting held in Kenya's capital, Nairobi, President Kenyatta said support for bankable projects in energy, transport, ICT, water and sanitation provide unprecedented opportunities for private sector participation.

"The private sector must step up and help us close the infrastructure gap on the African continent. Public funding is limited, and there are competing priorities," he said.

Kenyatta announced Kenya would double its current shareholding investment in Africa50 to US\$ 100 million. "We must have the confidence to trust and invest in our own infrastructure. Let us grow our partnership and make Africa50 a success."

According to statistics provided by the African Development Bank ([www.AfDB.org](http://www.AfDB.org)) the continent's infrastructure funding requirements stand at close to US\$ 170 billion a year, leaving a financing gap of US\$ \$68 - 108



President Kenyatta And Afdb President Adesina

billion.

African Development Bank President and Chairman of Africa50, Akinwumi Adesina, said, "We need to act with speed and urgency. Our people expect nothing else." He emphasized the importance of tackling factors that inhibit private sector infrastructure investments, including high costs of financing, weak regulations, lack of cost reflective tariffs, low profitability, and weak regulatory frameworks for public-private partnerships.

Private sector infrastructure financing in Africa remains low, averaging US\$ 6 billion per year. In 2016, the figure dipped to US\$ 2.6 billion.

Adesina said Africa requires new models of

financing infrastructure. "We must work smart to attract greater levels of investment financing for infrastructure development in Africa. Globally, there is approximately a US\$ 120 trillion pool of savings and private equity. Africa must creatively attract some of this into the continent," he said.

In response to Africa's infrastructure finance deficit, the African Development Bank has launched the Africa Investment Forum (AIF) set to take place in South Africa in November 2018. The transaction-based forum is expected to be a gathering of global pension funds, sovereign wealth funds and institutional investors, and key private sector players.

Adesina commended President Kenyatta for the country's bold commitment to and investments in infrastructure development over the last 5 years. Infrastructure accounts for 77% of the Bank's Kenya portfolio.

"Mr. President, you were one of the first African leaders to support the creation of Africa50, which I am honored to chair," said Adesina. "The African Development Bank, of which I am President, helped create Africa50 because we believe new institutional models are needed to close Africa's huge infrastructure financing gap. Africa50 will be a game changer on infrastructure financing."

He urged countries that have not yet become shareholders of Africa50 to

do so. Africa50 currently has a shareholding base of 25 African states.

Africa50 Chief Executive Officer, Alain Ebobissé, said his organisation was committed to ensuring the speedy execution of African infrastructure projects.

Three years after its founding, Africa50 has become a key player in driving infrastructure investments, with commercial rates of return in Africa. It has mobilized over \$850 million in infrastructure investments and expects to mobilise up to US\$3 billion through its private sector window. Africa50 has made major investments in a number of shareholder countries, including Egypt (400 MW solar power plants), Nigeria, Senegal and Kenya, among others.

The African Development Bank Group (AfDB) ([www.AfDB.org](http://www.AfDB.org)) is Africa's premier development finance institution. It comprises three distinct entities: the African Development Bank (AfDB), the African Development Fund (ADF) and the Nigeria Trust Fund (NTF). On the ground in 37 African countries with an external office in Japan, the AfDB contributes to the economic development and the social progress of its 54 regional member states.

\*Courtesy of AfDB

# The Cameroons: Who is afraid of dialogue?

By Mwalimu Ncheshieke



64th President of UN General Assembly Ali Triki presents President two maps to representing the two distinct entities that make up modern day Cameroon to President Biya during a visit to Cameroon in May 2010

Gone is the rosy portrayal of Cameroon as an island of peace in a troubled sub region. Gone is the image of a country which played host to refugees from Chad, Nigeria, Ghana, Niger and others when they had crisis. Tens of thousands of Cameroonians who have taken refuge in Nigeria will tell you that it is a scenario that they never imagined. Curiously nothing is been done to address the crisis. A hotel proprietor killed in Buea by the military today, the next day a student who went to fetch water is shot dead, the day after it is total

consternation as a popular Catholic Priest is shot dead in cold, before you know there are reports in another town of a popular young shot because after hiding for months in the bushes, he came out to see if he could get some clothes. Images of girls in their puberty been forced to swim in mud by a trigger happy military, villages razed, thousands in jail etc, How did Cameroon get here, and who is afraid of dialogue to resolve the crisis?

For 54 years two peoples have unequally yoked together for the benefit of one party and many

external foreign interest. For three decades and a half, The Cameroons have had on one leader. The imperious Paul Biya has ruled with a heavy hand and a lot water has gone under the bridge. They were ample grievances all these years but two years ago the chain of the frail unity gave way and now the Southern Cameroons is a hotbed for extrajudicial killing, genocide, arson and even some areas are a no-go zone. Now that the French dictatorial playbook is démodé, things are falling apart and the international community has voiced the

need for dialogue.

On 1<sup>st</sup> January 1960 La Republic du Cameroon (French Cameroon) had its independence from France, while on 1<sup>st</sup> of October 1961, the formally British Southern Cameroons United in a controversial union that resulted in all the political crisis that we have today. Political icon, late Hon. John Ngu Foncha and legal experts like Barristers Harmony Bobga, Fru John Nsoh, Fon Gorji Dinka, Barrister Ashu Emmanuel Agbor have all categorically stated that there is no treaty of union. It is on this shaky questionable

unification that the two supposedly federated states have been standing. They have challenged the UN and La Republique du Cameroun to produce one if it exists.

**It has been 54 years of political quagmire, economic malaise and academic inferno.**

Former President Amadou Ahidjo abrogated the Federated union, but it is his successor and current President Paul Biya who changed the name of the country from United Republic of Cameroon to Republic of Cameroon. This to many was certainly a symptom of calculated

assimilation and secession from the minority English speaker people (Southern Cameroons).

Other aspects of a systematic eradication and phobia of the English-speaking culture (by the French dominated government) was the disappearance of the People Work Department (PWD), Wum Area Development Authority (WADA), Cameroon Bank, North West Development Authority (MIDENO), Limbe DeepSea Port Authority, Menchum Fall etc.

It is simplistic, evasive and ignorant to conclude that the aggrieved English speaker people of Southern Cameroons have a language problem. Their grievances had clearly been articulated on several occasions.

Some of which are the first and second All Anglophone Conference of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> April 1993 (held in Buea) the All Anglophone Conference of May 1994 respectively, the Lawyers and Teachers Union and Strike, and the coffin revolution.

The government was not serious, genuine or forthright with their efforts in addressing the grievances of the Southern Cameroonians that piled up to eventually explode uncontrollably like a volcano.

The governors and the ministers sent to resolve the crisis escalated the situation with intimidation and porous conflict management techniques.

The declaration of the Independent state of Ambazonia on October 1<sup>st</sup> 2017, the killing of unarmed protesters by the Military, the kidnapping of the interim leaders of Ambazonia in Nigeria, exacerbated the crises.

The struggle metamorphosed from demonstrators to machete, den guns and now semi or sophisticated weaponry.



*Demonstrators march during a protest against perceived discrimination in favour of the country's francophone majority on September 22, 2017 in Bamenda, the main town in the Northwest Region Cameroon and an anglophone hub. Separatists have declared the formation of «Ambazonia». Photo | Stringer | AFP*

Paul Biya broke his traditional silence and resorted to declaring war on the people of the Southern Cameroons and dialogue was not an option. The La Republique army has not won the war and both soldiers of the government and civilians have been killed.

With the presence of so many invisible players in the Cameroons the situation gets even more complicated. France is the colonial master that never left. The Cooperation Agreement signed on 26<sup>th</sup> December 1959 with by President Ahidjo and the France of President Charles de Gaulle, the selection of figure head leaders are some of the reasons why France will not hesitate to dictate the terms of any dialogue with their United Nations veto powers. China has investment interest with Cameroon. The ruthless BIR trained by both Israel and America makes dialogue intricate.

A lot of killings, burning of villages, there are a lot of innocent Southern Cameroons inhabitants hiding in the bushes, others stranded in Nigeria,

the diaspora ignored. If the government had heeded to the warning of Dr. Felix Agbor Nkongo, and Lawyer Bobga Harmony to dialogue for federalism earlier to avert an impending separation later, the country will not be in the glorious mess it finds itself today.

The Separatist Ambazonia distrust La Republique and Ambazonians are not willing to dialogue for Federalism but to negotiate for independence. Conflict or crises management expert know this is a hard nut to crack.

## **Callous Management and The Way Forward**

While the world is now talking about the crisis, its handling by President Biya has not helped matters. He has not as much as given even a public address to talk to Cameroonians about it. He has not yet reacted to recommendations from the bilingualism commission that he created. The report issued after stormy meetings in the North West and South West regions of the country called amongst others for the government to give

serious consideration to a federal system of government.

Surprisingly the government has embarked on a marshall plan of sorts for the Anglophone regions worth some 12 billion frs cfa. Curiously, it appears the funds will be sourced privately as people, especially top shots from the regime have engaged in a donation frenzy towards the project. Many have questioned the raison d'être of the plan from conception, to implementation, considering that a huge chunk of the English speaking region is largely ungovernable at this point, with unprecedented security challenges and no administrative structures.

Politically, local government and parliamentary elections scheduled for this year have been postponed for a year because of security reasons in the country. Curiosity of curiosities again, Presidential elections have been scheduled this year as well are on course to take place in October with 85 old President Paul Biya running for a seventh term. Is the

President more concerned about maintaining his grip on power, rather than addressing the serious malaise in the country?

No matter what angle one looks at it, ultimately the solution involves talking, and serious talking. Call it dialogue, call it negotiations or whatever name, but people have to talk. For now, President Biya has scored worse than an F as grade in the way the crisis has been managed. Is it incompetence, indifference, is the President overwhelmed? Is he using the crisis to foster a political agenda that only he masters? The questions are just too many when one considers the callousness with which he continues to handle the crisis. Certainly the country will never be the same whether for better or for worse, and on this score lies the legacy that will define the record breaking duration of the Presidency of Paul Biya. The current crisis is not one to wish away and will continue to hang as an albatross on his neck till it is resolved.

# NKEMNJI



Tel: (608) 239-3994  
ngt\_press@yahoo.com  
www.nkemnjiglobaltech.com

# GLOBAL TECH

## Graphic Design & Publishing



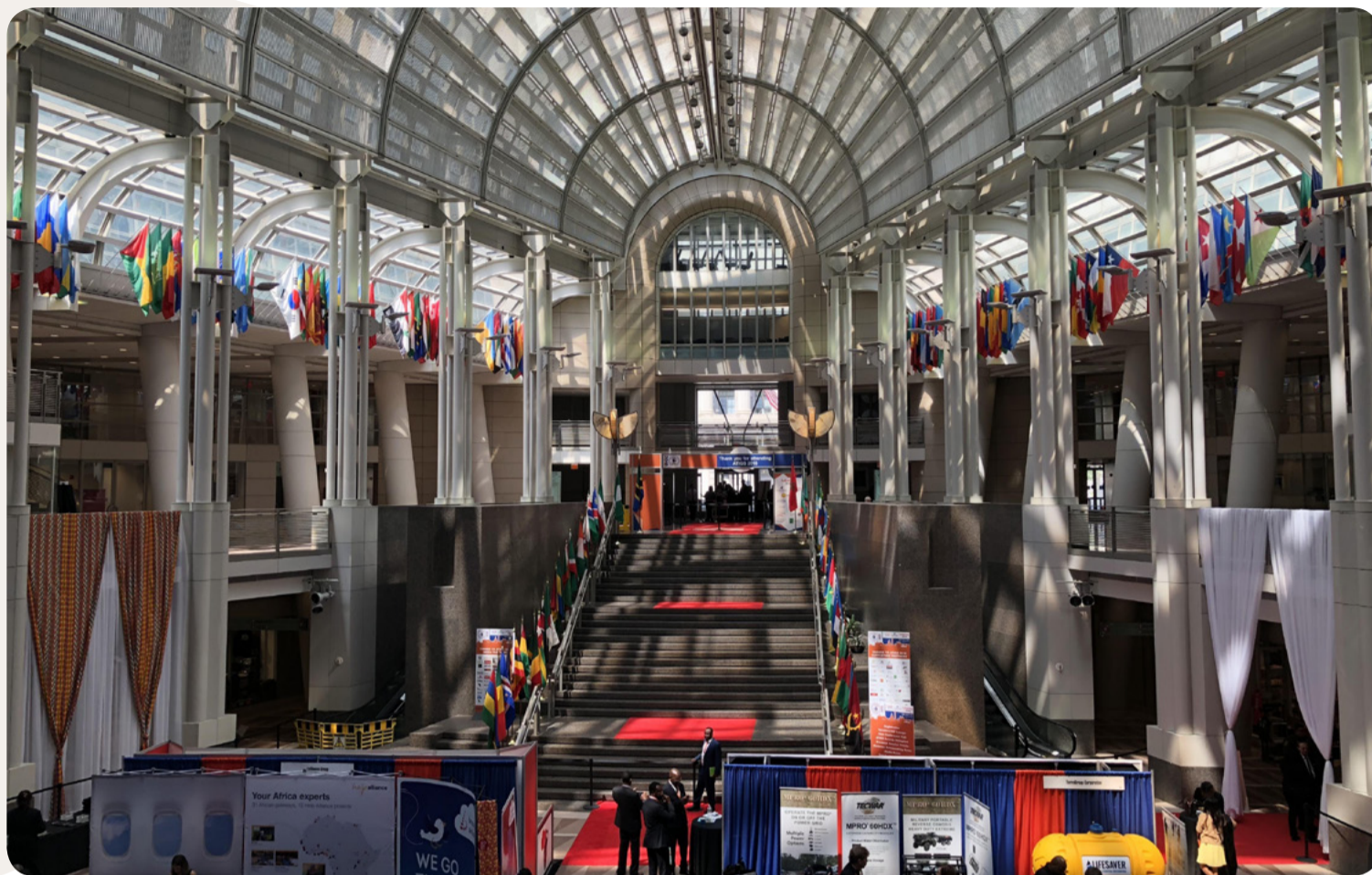
Safari DMC Limited is a leading Africa inbound Tour Operator; an authentic one stop shop for all your African Wildlife Safaris; Adventure, Culture and Leisure Tours and Holidays; Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, Events and Logistics needs in Africa. We provide amazing safari, tour and travel experiences in Kenya, Ethiopia, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania and other countries in Africa. Founded in the heart of Africa by long standing African safari professionals with decades of experience living, working and travelling across the continent, we pride ourselves on being the first and only indigenously owned and managed properly all-Africa inbound Tour Operator based in Africa. Our registered local Tour Operator offices in Kenya, Uganda and Rwanda as well as partnerships in Tanzania and Angola coordinate operations in Kenya, Ethiopia, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania, Angola, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Mozambique, South Africa and Botswana. We also partner with other operators in the Central African Republic, Cameroon, Gabon, sections of D.R. Congo and the Republic of Congo (Brazzaville). Our team of highly qualified individuals with decades of tour operating experience in Africa enables us provide diverse and superior tourism products that suit each of our guests' particular needs. We pride ourselves in innovative tour packages, superior customer service, highly competitive prices and amazing on the ground hospitality.

**Please email: [info@safaridmc.com](mailto:info@safaridmc.com),  
WhatsApp: +256 759 058363  
call/text +254 792 374554  
for a prompt proposal within 24hrs**

# The 2018 Africa Trade & Investment Global Summit (ATIGS)

The 2018 Africa Trade & Investment Global Summit (ATIGS) registered immense success with the participation of some 70 countries including government delegations, high profile business leaders, project developers, and international investors. The event took place from June 24 to 26, 2018 at the World Trade Center Washington D.C, under the main theme «Driving Trade, Unleashing Investment and Enhancing Economic Development: the Gateway to African Markets.»

Sectors covered included manufacturing, agribusiness, power, construction, transportation, IT, health, fintech, tourism, telecoms, and natural resources sectors



# ATIGS 2018 Event Highlights



Bako Ambiana with Mamadou Samba, Director of the Mayor's Office of African Affairs (MOAA) - Washington, D.C.



Bako Ambiana with Angola Delegation  
Mr. Coutinho Nobre Miguel  
Chairman of the Board of Directors, Banco Sol - Angola  
Fernando Dolbeth Assuncao  
Managing Director, First African Investment Holding- Angola



Bako Ambiana with Angola Delegation Mr. Coutinho Nobre Miguel  
Chairman of the Board of Directors, Banco Sol - Angola  
Fernando Dolbeth Assuncao  
Managing Director, First African Investment Holding- Angola



Bako Ambiana with Head of Congo Delegation, Sylvestre Didier Mavouenzela  
President, Chambre de Commerce, d'industrie, d'agriculture et des métiers de Pointe-Noire (CCIAM) - Republic of the Congo



Bako Ambiana with Congo Delegation  
Head of Delegation, Sylvestre Didier Mavouenzela  
President, Chambre de Commerce, d'industrie, d'agriculture et des métiers de Pointe-Noire (CCIAM) - Republic of the Congo



Bako Ambiana with Siyabulela Mandela  
grandson of the iconic South African leader Nelson Mandela - South Africa



*Bako Ambianda with  
Dr. Tariq A. Nizami, Founder & CEO of Clubs Network Worldwide-UA*



*Bako Ambianda with Almas Jivani  
President, Emeritus United Nations Women Canada - Canada*



*Bako Ambianda with Delegation from PULSAR Development International Ltd*

# The Future Of Transport MANO-RAIL

## Abidjan-Manrovia -Freetown Conakry Skyway Transport System STS

Abidjan-Monrovia-Freetown Conakry  
Skyway Transport System **STS**



ASKING.NL

Van der Wijngaart 's Engineering Services www.wijngaart.nl copyright 2012 WES, patent applied

v.d. WIJNGAART'S  
ENGINEERING SERVICES

### Present problems in using the transport in Aviation

Departure delay

Boarding 2 hours in advance

Intensive check

Travelling time to Airport

Mass crowded

Long waiting time before boarding

CO2 problem/ global warming

Noise and air pollution

Accesive fosil fuel consumption

Debarkation delay

Long debarking time

Lost of luggage

Intensive checkes

Long travel to final destination.



So far, Airbus A380 has been considered the most economic transport. Despite the speed difference (Airbus develops the speed of up to 890 km/h and unibus – just up to 500 km/h), they can be compared. For example, at the distance of up to 1350 km, SkyWay transport can be undoubtedly considered faster. The trip by SkyWay transport from Abidjan to Conakry will take only 1 hour and 20 minutes. At the same time, in order to cover this distance by Airbus, you will have to spend at least 3 hours. In addition, a passenger will have to pay for transport from the airport to the city. Airbus tanks become empty within 17.5 hours of flight. It burns 343 tons of fuel per 24 hours; this index is increased up to 125,000 tons per year, and up to 2.5 mln tons of kerosene per 20 years.

In contrast, SkyWay transport with the same passenger carrying capacity can use electric energy, that is ecologically clean. Calculated as conventional fuel, 27 tons will be spent per 24 hours. It is not difficult to calculate that the saving for a few dozen years will be tremendous – over 2 mln tons.

ASKING.NL

Van der Wijngaart 's Engineering Services www.wijngaart.nl copyright 2012 WES, patent applied

v.d. WIJNGAART'S  
ENGINEERING SERVICES

## Present problems in using Road transport

Automobile roads and highways, the total area of which is comparable by volume to the territories of Japan, Germany, the Netherlands and Great Britain combined, covered the soil with a thick asphalt layer forever.

The negative consequences of widespread construction of automobile highways and railways are listed below:

Fertile soil, generously offered to Man by Nature, is practically completely destroyed at present. All land adjacent to traffic arteries is poisoned with harmful substances. Detrimental effect of substances contained in exhaust fumes of automobiles, as well as anti-icing agents for roads and other products used in automotive industry have led to death of humus around all transport objects.

Road compacting has caused changes in movement of ground waters, which resulted in the destruction of natural balance – some places suffer from droughts, whereas others are subject to swamping.

Rail SkyWay-technologies is a chance to restore the ecosystem.



ASKING.NL

Van der Wijngaart's Engineering Services www.wijngaart.nl copyright 2012 WES, patent applied

v.d. WIJNGAART'S  
ENGINEERING SERVICES

## Required solution connecting 4 metropolises

How can we integrate personal transport and cargo transport from the main Airports to the Cities around or further development of eco friendly living areas.

The new Skyway transport system is easy to build and to construct in rural areas or even wet areas along the coast line.

On several locations we can build hubs for as well people transport and cargo deliveries.

By building the elevated Skyway transport system, there are no negative effects on wild life and the environment. Even for the habitat of living areas of people it takes hardly no space or noise pollution.

The system generates energy that can be delivered to villages or buildings.



ASKING.NL

Van der Wijngaart's Engineering Services www.wijngaart.nl copyright 2012 WES, patent applied

## Engineering and Design by:

-V.D. Wijngaart's Engineering Services

Netherlands

-Synergy International Inc.

California

## Architectural Design by:

-ASK, Green building Design Netherlands.

Netherlands

## Investor:

GLOBAL GREEN INT'L HOLDING

Provo UTAH

Email: [myglobalprojects@gmail.com](mailto:myglobalprojects@gmail.com)

Phone: +221762210809 +221781012728

+14046049320



ASKING.NL

Van der Wijngaart's Engineering Services www.wijngaart.nl copyright 2012 WES, patent applied

## Reference

## Inspirational work we designed

Study Housing Blocks  
Dubai

Floating Hotel  
Harbor Rotterdam  
Building year 2016

Luxurious Wellness and  
Health resort and Hotel  
Dubai  
Seventh.nu

SEVENTH PROJECT  
DUBAI

Health of the Sun-City

Van der Wijngaart's Engineering Services www.wijngaart.nl copyright 2012 WES, patent applied

19

Financial investment data.

An initial estimation of the cost of MANO Skyway will be available soon for the distance of 1810 Kilometers.

v.d. WIJNGAART'S  
ENGINEERING SERVICES

## Integration of various Train systems

High-speed transport



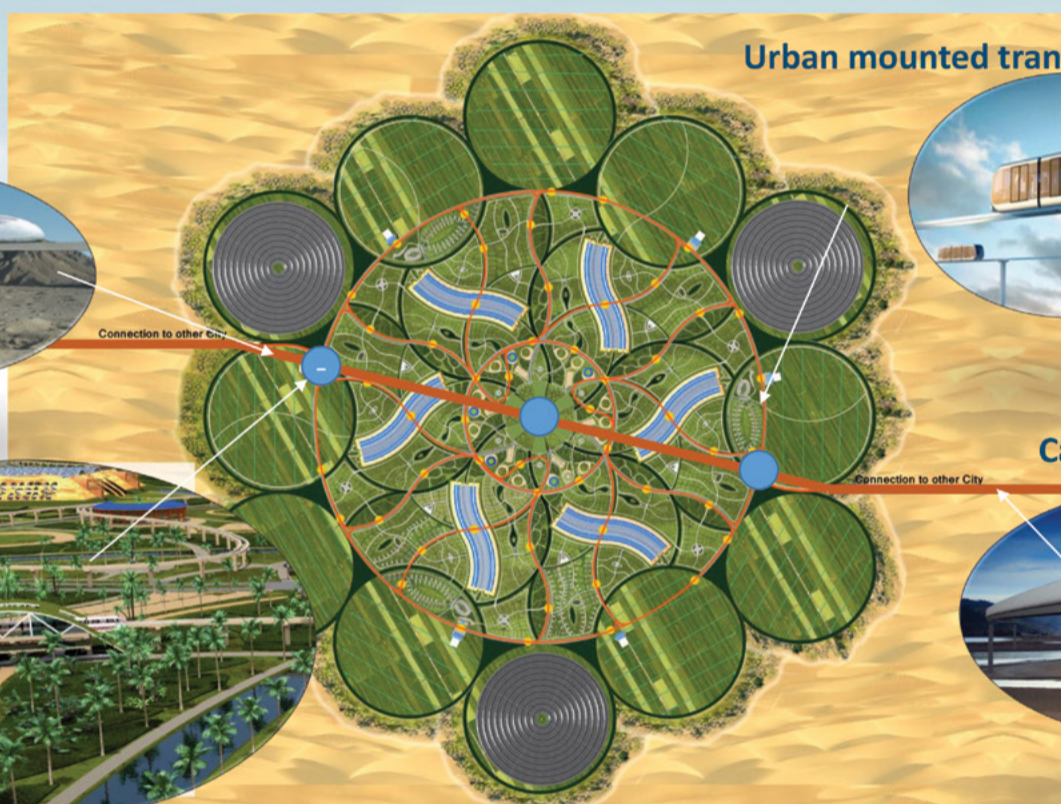
Connection hub



Urban mounted transport



Cargo mounted transport



ASKING.NL

Van der Wijngaart's Engineering Services www.wijngaart.nl copyright 2012 WES, patent applied

v.d. WIJNGAART'S  
ENGINEERING SERVICES

## The types of train modules



### Competitive advantages

1. Reduction of capital construction expenses due to the following factors: decrease in land allocation area for a rapid track and infrastructure within the city; elimination of tunnels, roadbed, bridges, multi-level junctions, overpasses, overground and underground pedestrian crossings; reduction of resource intensity in a rail-string overpass compared to conventional urban overpasses with a solid roadbed; a possibility of being used in places with rugged topography, with weak support ground, as well as in harsh climatic and geographical conditions.
2. Reduction of suspension system operational expenses due to the following factors: decrease in fuel and electric energy consumption; reduction of expenses related to operating personnel and salary payment; reduction of repair and restoration work; absence of necessity to clean the track from ice and snow in winter.
3. Reduction of net cost for urban cargo and passenger transportation by two fold.
4. Possibility for populating new territories and their environmentally sound development, which is especially relevant in case of hard to reach places, comfortable for people's dwelling – islands, sea shelves, mountains, etc.
5. Increase in reliability and safety of urban transport high-speed system, operating in any weather and in any climatic conditions at year-round operation

ASKING.NL

Van der Wijngaart's Engineering Services www.wijngaart.nl copyright 2012 WES, patent applied

v.d. WIJNGAART'S  
ENGINEERING SERVICES

## The types of train modules



### Urban mounted transport

#### Area of application

#### High-speed overground cargo and passenger transportation:

within the city;  
between cities located close to each other;  
between cities and airports;  
between a city and a suburb.

#### Main characteristics

Motion speed – up to 150 km/h.

Possible rolling stock capacity:

up to 100 passengers;

up to 10 tons of cargo.

Declivity of track lines – up to 15%, with special configuration – up to 30%.

Covered distances – up to 200 km.

Maximal urban transportation volume at one transport leg:

up to 25,000 passengers at peak hours;

up to 1,000 tons of cargo per 24 hours.

High-speed line cost – from 1.5 mln USD/km (excluding the cost of infrastructure, passenger stations and rolling stock).

Low net cost of a high-speed line compared to the net cost of transportation carried out by underground metro – by twofold lower; of that carried out by tram – by 3 times lower; of that carried out by monorail track – by 5 times lower.

ASKING.NL

Van der Wijngaart's Engineering Services www.wijngaart.nl copyright 2012 WES, patent applied

v.d. WIJNGAART'S  
ENGINEERING SERVICES

## The types of train modules



### Cargo mounted transport

For its large-scale use all over the world, the multi-functional cargo transport system designed for bulk cargo transportation, based on Yunitskiy String Technologies, shall be certified in the nearest 2–2.5 years and demonstrated to potential customers in its 4th generation.

#### Area of Project application:

ore mining, mining and processing, coal and metallurgic areas

industry (transportation of ore, coal, bauxite, overburden rock, etc.)

construction sector (transportation of mortar sand, sand and gravel mix, broken stone, ground), etc.

Cargo SkyWay for bulk cargo transportation of high capacity – up to 100 mln tons per year, i.e. at the level of cargo transportation is most in-demand on world ore mining and coal markets.

Thus, SkyWay transport system can be used much wider – as a communication system for developing territories rich in resources, but at present are hard to reach.

ASKING.NL

Van der Wijngaart's Engineering Services www.wijngaart.nl copyright 2012 WES, patent applied

v.d. WIJNGAART'S  
ENGINEERING SERVICES

## The types of train modules



### High-speed transport

High-speed transport system of the second level is designed for implementation of cargo and passenger transportation between cities, areas and regions within one country, as well as for efficient transport communication between countries of the same continent and intercontinental cargo and passenger transportation.

Cargo and passenger rolling stock on high-speed lines is able to develop the speed of up to 500 km/h. Unibuses can transfer up to 500 passengers or up to 100 tons of cargo at a time.

High-speed string transport under SkyWay technology opens incredible opportunities for humanity. From now on, a person will get a chance to reach any place in the world quickly, with comfort and at a reasonable price. In addition, it is possible now to actively develop high-grade mineral deposits for the benefit of humanity, which were for a long time deemed inaccessible due to challenging terrain or harsh climatic conditions. It is particularly important that these activities will be carried out without destroying ecology, for reasonable money, with ten-fold safety factor, low costs for construction and operation, at high speeds, to maximum effect and absolutely safely.

ASKING.NL

Van der Wijngaart's Engineering Services www.wijngaart.nl copyright 2012 WES, patent applied

v.d. WIJNGAART'S  
ENGINEERING SERVICES

## Advantages of using the light weight train system

Integration of various transport systems  
Flexible use of timetable by the computerized system, we are able to maximize the passengers comfort and time interval.

Flexible supply of goods and cargo from Train stations or Airports.  
Low delay on time boarding  
Flexible integration and solutions for long and city transportation.

Added value by licensed production

Most economic solution  
Standardized solution  
Low carbon footprint  
Low investment cost vs. aviation or road traffic  
High added value in labor

Short debarking time  
Relative low travel fee  
High impact on environmental improvement.  
Maintaining the wild life of animals, flora and fauna.



ASKING.NL

Van der Wijngaart's Engineering Services www.wijngaart.nl copyright 2012 WES, patent applied

# US-Africa Cybersecurity Group (USAFCG)

Effective catalyst for the harmonization of cybersecurity policies and the implementation of practical solutions in Africa.

USAFCG is a collaborative organization designed to foster the development and implementation of cybersecurity strategies and initiatives in the public and private sectors taking into account scientific, technological, economic and financial, political, and sociocultural dimensions of the “whole of society” in Africa. Spanning across three continents, Africa, America and Europe USAFCG’s partners stand ready to bring the required expertise and resources to help your organization’s specific cybersecurity challenges.

## Cyber Hygiene Program

The Cyber Hygiene e-Learning Course is an important part of our portfolio which specifically targets the critical aspect of human risk behavior in the field of cyber security. Our experts bring together decades of unique experience in the field of cybersecurity exercises, penetration testing, risk assessment, and cyber security capability development. Our experts have experience in responding to real-life cyber emergencies in both the government and private sector.



**US-AFRICA**  
Cybersecurity Group

US-Africa Cybersecurity Group (USAFCG)

2020 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW #220

Washington, DC 20006

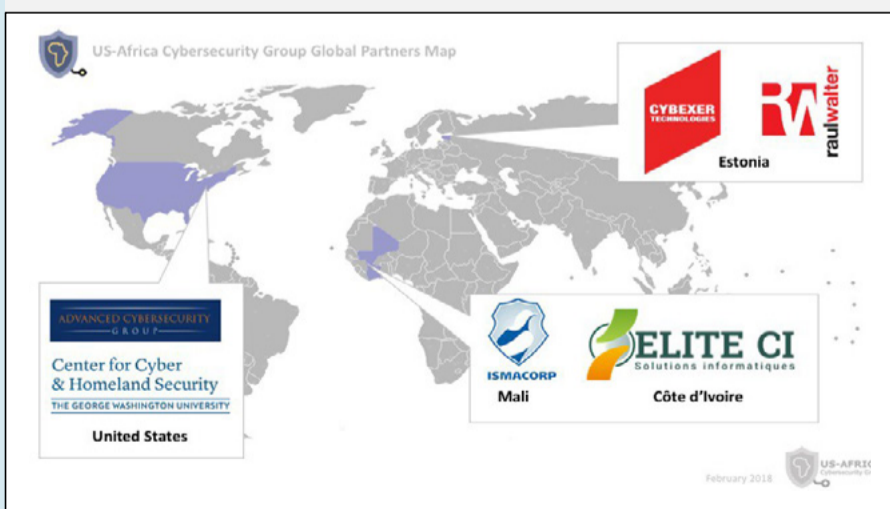
T: +1 703 831 7584

E: [relations@usafcg.com](mailto:relations@usafcg.com)

<https://usafcg.com>

© 2018. All Rights Reserved.

USAFCG is a registered Limited Liability Company in the District of Columbia, United States.





**Labacorp Group** is a diversified portfolio of businesses and strategic investments in key economic sectors spanning manufacturing, construction, power, agribusiness, real estate, and exhibition among others, with operations in five countries. The Group notable portfolio companies include **Labacorp Industries, Labacorp Investments, Labacorp Construction, Labacorp Power Company, Labacorp Exhibitions, Labacorp Media, and ATIGS Group, Inc.**

**MAJOR AFRICA FOCUSED SUBSIDIARIES:**



**Labacorp Power Company, LLC** owns, operate, and develop renewable energy projects in emerging and frontier markets, with a focus on Africa. [www.labacorppower.com](http://www.labacorppower.com) Email: [contact@labacorpgroup.com](mailto:contact@labacorpgroup.com)

**Key Activities**

Residential Rooftop (Off the Grid)  
Residential Storage Solutions  
Potable Solar Products Distribution

Solar + Storage Power Solutions  
Energy Storage (Commercial)  
Commecial & Industrial Projects

Investment for Energy Infrastructure  
Solar Trainings – Energy Education



**ATIGS Group, Inc (Africa Trade & Investment Global Services)** is a trade promotion, project facilitation and development company that connects African businesses to world-class investors, buyers, and strategic partners. ATIGS Group also facilitates the pipeline between investors and top scalable, profitable opportunities across Africa. [www.atigsgroup.com](http://www.atigsgroup.com)

**ATIGS Group** also markets new development solutions, and organize a wide spectrum of global, regional and national activities pertaining to trade and investment. The Group also collaborates with UN system agencies, trade promotional organizations, investment promotional agencies, and multilateral organizations who have needs for developing solutions that would impact and support their programmatic activities in various areas of sustainable and economic development. Email: [contact@atigsgroup.com](mailto:contact@atigsgroup.com)

**NOW IS THE TIME TO:**

❖ Invest in Africa

❖ Trade with Africa

❖ Partner with Africa



**LABACORP GROUP OF COMPANIES**

*Committed to Development*



@labacorpgroup



Labacorp Group

